

12

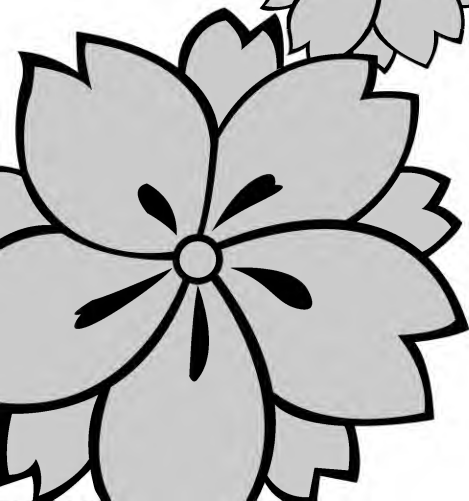
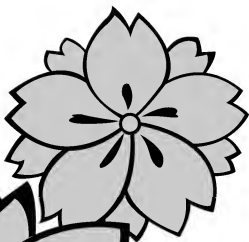
Yozakura Quartet

Suzuhito
Yasuda



YOZAKURA
QUARTET

12



A RAMBUNCTIOUS, MOODY, NOODLE-LOVING, SCARF-CLAD DEMON HIGH SCHOOLER AND THE MAYOR OF SAKURASHIN. LATELY, SHE'S STARTED LEARNING HOW TO COOK IN AN EFFORT TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT. EVEN SO, IT SEEMS SHE STILL LOVES AKINA'S COOKING THE MOST.



**HIME
YARIZAKURA**



**AKINA
HIIZUMI**

THE DIRECTOR OF THE HIIZUMI LIFE COUNSELING OFFICE. AS ABOUT 20% OF HIS WORKDAY GOES INTO MAKING FOOD FOR HIME AND HIS EMPLOYEES, HE'S OFTEN IN THE OFFICE VERY LATE.

Quartet of cherry blossoms in the night

YOZAKURA QUARTET

CHARACTER
PROFILE

AN EMPLOYEE OF THE HIIZUMI LIFE COUNSELING OFFICE. SHE'S AS MUCH OF A RICE FANATIC AS HIME IS A NOODLE FANATIC. THIS MUST BE WHAT THEY MEAN BY "TWO GREAT RIVALS CANNOT COEXIST."

**KOTOHA
ISONO**



A PART-TIME WORKER AT THE HIIZUMI LIFE COUNSELING OFFICE. SHE WEARS GLASSES, IS INTO GIRLS, AND HAS BIG BOOBS, AMONG OTHER CLICHÉS, BUT SHE ALSO HAS THE MOST REFRESHING PERSONALITY.

**AO
NANAMI**



**KYOSUKE
KISHI**



HIME'S ASSISTANT AND OVERSEER (BABYSITTER). HE HAS TO TAKE CARE OF BOTH HIME AND TOUKA, SO HIS DAYS ARE FILLED WITH STRESS.

**TOUKA
KISHI**



KYOSUKE'S YOUNGER SISTER AND THE FAIRER HALF OF THE TWO ONI SIBLINGS. THAT SAID, SHE LEADS THE MOST NORMAL LIFE, AS BEFITTING A HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL. SHE USED TO DO ARCHERY, BUT NOW PRACTICES AIKIDO.

**ENJIN
HIIZUMI**



A DESCENDANT OF ENYOU HIIZUMI. HE TOOK OVER THE BODY OF GIN, AO'S OLDER BROTHER, AND HE IS PLANNING TO MAKE THE SEVEN PILLARS BLOOM IN ORDER TO MERGE THE TWO DIMENSIONS.

THE LAND GOD OF SAKURASHIN.
SHE CAN OFTEN BE SEEN LOTTERING
AROUND TOWN, SO SHE'S NOT THE
MOST DIGNIFIED DEITY.



**YAE
SHINATSUHIKO**

THE DISTRICT MAYOR WHO COORDINATES
THE TOWNS. HE IS ALSO A LAND GOD.
DEEP DOWN, HE IS A PERVERTED
OLD MAN.



**YUI
SHINATSUHIKO**

A DEMON, DOCTOR AND TOWN
ICON. SHE HAS BEEN
ABSTAINING FROM SHOW
BUSINESS LATELY.

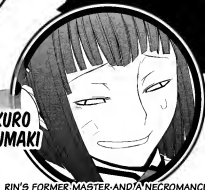


JURI

YUI'S SECRETARY. SHE IS
ALWAYS ORDERED TO COSPLAY,
BUT SHE SEEMS TO ENJOY IT.
SHE IS ALSO JURI'S GREAT-
GREAT-GREAT-GRANDMOTHER.



MARIABELL



**ZAKURO
KURUMAKI**

JURI'S YOUNGER SISTER.
A WITCH/MAGICIAN WITH
A SISTER COMPLEX.



LILA

A JIANGSHI, WHO WORKS AT A RAMEN RESTAURANT.
IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S ALWAYS SLACKING OFF, BUT
SHE'S SURPRISINGLY DILIGENT. WAS KIDNAPPED
BUT RETURNED SAFELY.



**RIN
AZUMA**

HE IS A COP, BUT EVERYONE TENDS TO FORGET THAT FACT. HE IS BUSY WATCHING OVER MINA AND KANA.

SHIDOU
MIZUKI



POLICE

NADESHIKO
MATSUDAIRA



TWINS WHO ARE MERMAID-VAMPIRE HYBRIDS. THEY GROW WHEN THEY IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN WATER.

KANA
TATEBAYASHI

MINA
TATEBAYASHI



TAKAO
TAKEMURA



USUZUMI
IYO



UZU
KIBUNE



SENATE

SHIDARE
MORIOKA



NORIKO
SHIINA



OUTLINE

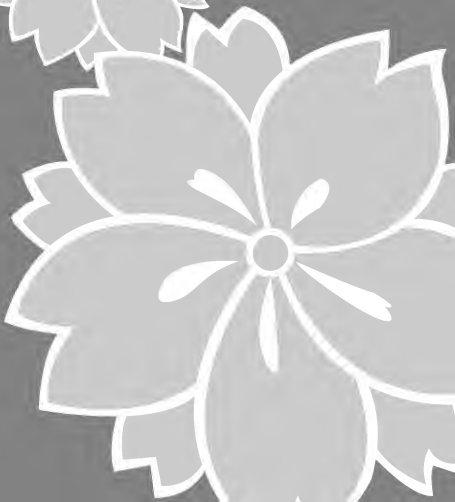
AS THE GANG TAKES A SLIGHT BREATHER FOLLOWING THE HAKONE ARC AND THE WEREWOLF COMMOTION, AN EIGHTH PILLAR SUDDENLY APPEARS OUT OF THIN AIR. FOR THE TIME BEING, HIME AND THE REST GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP BEFORE INVESTIGATING IN TYPICAL LEISURELY FASHION...

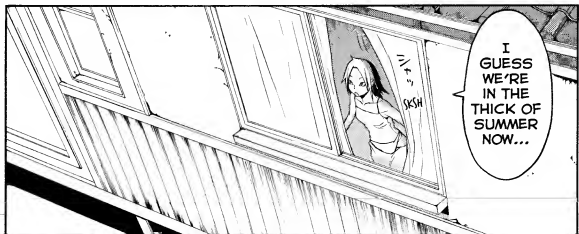
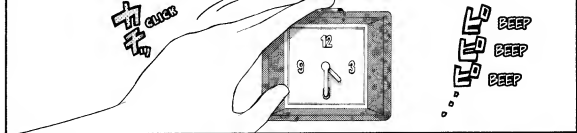
12

YOZAKURA QUARTET

C O N T E N T S

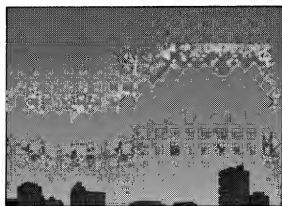
007	STORY (PART ONE)
039	STORY (PART TWO)
071	STORY (PART THREE)
103	STORY (PART FOUR)
135	STORY (PART FIVE)
185	STORY (EPILOGUE)
204	EXTRAS
207	MOUNTAIN PASS TOWN







**WHAT ...HWA
THE AAH?!
HELL'S
GOING
ON?!**



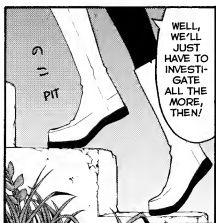
63RD NIGHT STORY (PART ONE)



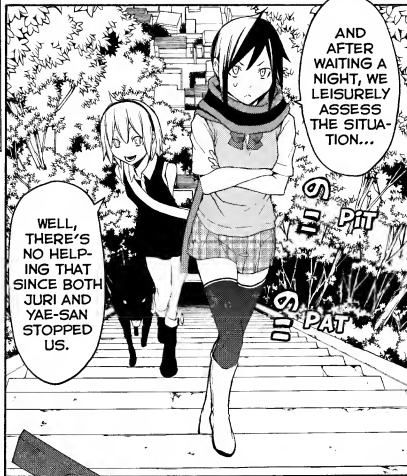


BUT
I'M NOT
REALLY
TIRED
SINCE
I HAD A
GOOD
TIME...

THE PILLARS
WON'T GO
ANYWHERE!
TONIGHT, YOU
SHOULD JUST
RECOVER
FROM YOUR
TRIP!



WELL,
WE'LL
JUST
HAVE TO
INVESTIGATE
ALL THE
MORE,
THEN!



AND
AFTER
WAITING A
NIGHT, WE
LEISURELY
ASSESS
THE SITUATION...

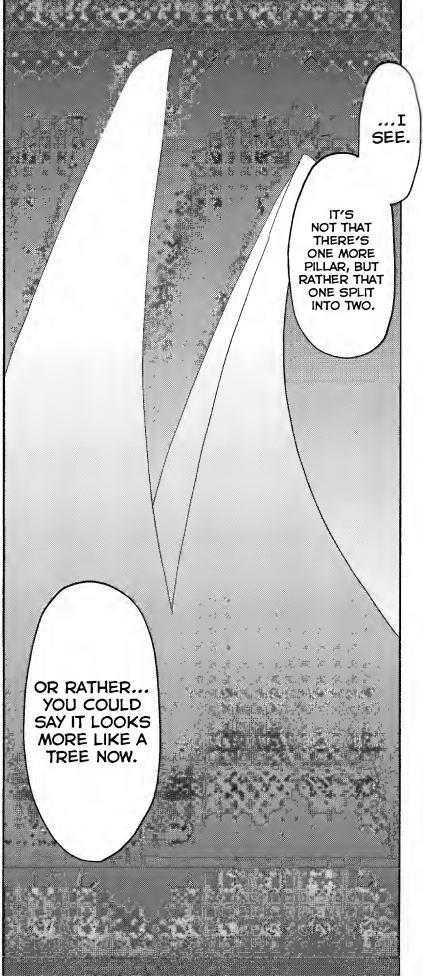
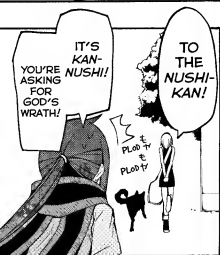
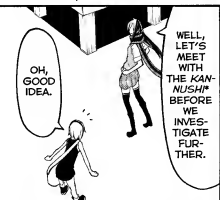
WELL,
THERE'S
NO HELPING
THAT
SINCE BOTH
JURI AND
YAE-SAN
STOPPED
US.



HERE
WE
ARE.



*The chief priest of a Shinto shrine.







I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

OH! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE, ROKKAKU-KUN?

GOOD AFTER-NOON. DID YOU SLEEP WELL?

HEL-LOOO.
WORKING HARD, I SEE, NADESHI-KO-SAN.



MMM. NOT REALLY.

DID YOU FIGURE ANYTHING OUT, NADESHI-KO-SAN?

ALL RIGHT. THANKS.

はす
PLAP



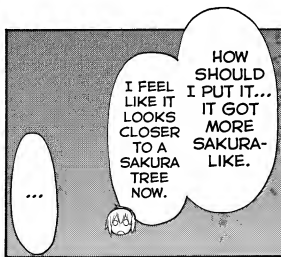
HMM.

NOW THAT ONE CHANGED LIKE THIS, THEIR PRESENCE IS SUDDENLY SUPER APPARENT.

I THINK THAT GOES FOR MOST PEOPLE.

WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT THEY'RE VERY IMPORTANT.

THE PILLARS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A MYSTERY, BUT SINCE THEY'VE BEEN A PART OF THIS TOWN FOREVER, I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT TOO DEEPLY ABOUT THEM.



THE
ONLY
OTHER
ONES WHO
MIGHT
KNOW
SOME-
THING
ARE...



00
THERE
WAS AN
ARCHIVE?

MAYBE
THERE'S A
BOOK IN
THE ARCHIVE
AT AKINA'S
OFFICE
THAT'LL
HELP US.

HEAVE...
HO.

IT
SURE IS
INCONVE-
NIENT NOT
BEING ABLE
TO GET UP
HERE BY
CAR.



SHUCK
...
...



SAWAKI,
DO YOU
MIND IF I
USE THE
SHRINE'S
OFFICE?

HM?
SURE.
YOU'RE
FREE TO,
BUT...

I'LL
HAVE
TO PICK
HER
BRAIN
LATER.

PLEASE
DON'T
GET IN
MY WAY.
I DON'T
HAVE
TIME TO
HUMOR
YOU
TODAY.

THIS IS A
VALUABLE
CHANCE TO
GATHER
DATA ON
THE SEVEN
PILLARS.

DO ME
...

WHAT'S
THAT
SUP-
POSED
TO
MEAN,
SHIINA-
CHAN?



OH, MY,
MORE
VISI-
TORS...
GEH!
NADESHI-
KO...





I
OFFERED
HER
TEA AND
SNACKS
SINCE SHE
WAS JUST
WANDERING
AROUND,
BUT SHE
FELL
ASLEEP.

OH, YOU
ALREADY
HAD A
GUEST.



I THINK
WE HAVE
SOME
USED FOR RITUALS...

PA-
PER?

DO YOU
HAVE
ANY
HUGE
SHEETS
OF PA-
PER?



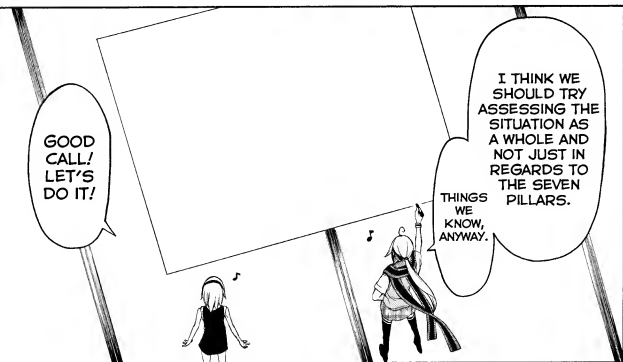
SO,
WHAT
DO YOU
NEED
THE OFFICE
FOR, HIME?

DO GODS
REALLY
GET
TIRED?

SHE
MIGHT
BE TIRED
FROM
CUTTING
LOOSE AT
HAKONE.

GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE





AKINA!

あきな

Pillar: One

I'LL
CALL
HER
NOW.

LOOKS
PERFECTLY
NORMAL
TO ME.

LET'S
GET IN
TOUCH
WITH
HIME.

WELL?

WELL,
THAT
SHOULD
DO IT.

BEEP
KO

SHEESH.

CAN YOU
CHECK
THE OTHER
PILLARS,
TOO? I'LL
INVESTIGATE
THEM ALL
IN REVERSE
ORDER ON MY
WAY BACK.

I SEE.
GOOD
WORK.

UNDER-
STOOD.

EVERY-
THING
SEEMS
TO
CHECK
OUT
AT THE
FIRST
PILLAR.

HEY,
AO!
GIVE
ME
BACK
THE
PEN!

AH!
KYO-
SUKE!

HELLO?
MISS?

?

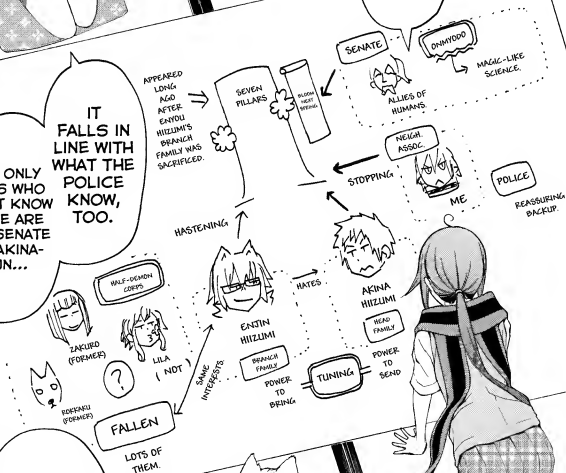


AS FAR AS I KNOW, THIS IS THE CURRENT SITUATION.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, NADESHI-KO-SAN?

IT FALLS IN LINE WITH WHAT THE POLICE KNOW, TOO.

THE ONLY ONES WHO MIGHT KNOW MORE ARE THE SENATE OR AKINA-KUN...



OUR OFFICE AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ALWAYS PROVIDE INFORMATION, SO I DOUBT IT'LL CHANGE MUCH.



THE
BLOOMING
OF THE
SEVEN
PILLARS
SAID TO
OCCUR
NEXT
SPRING.

SEVEN
PILLARS

BLOOM
NEXT
SPRING

CURRENTLY,
OUR
BIGGEST
PROBLEM
IS THIS.

とん
TAP

IT
DEFI-
NITELY
WON'T
BE ANY
BUT IT LATER,
COULD
HAPPEN
SOONER.

YOU'RE
SURE
IT'LL
HAPPEN
IN
SPRING?

SIMPLE
ENOUGH.

WHEN THE
SEVEN PILLARS
BLOSSOM, THIS
REALM AND THE
NEXT WILL COM-
PLETELY MERGE,
AND THIS REALM
WILL OVERFLOW
WITH BAD
DEMONS.

SO, WE
HAVE TO
STOP
THAT.

"EVEN IF
WE DEFEAT
ENJIN,
IT
WON'T STOP
THE BLOS-
SOMING."

THIS IS
SURPRIS-
INGLY
TROUBLE-
SOME.

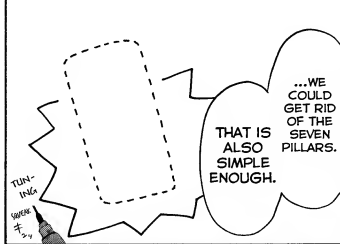
ENJIN
HIIZUMI

THE ONE
TRYING TO
HASTEN
THINGS...
...IS
ENJIN
HIIZUMI.

RIGHT.

TO PUT
IT IN
OTHER
WORDS
...

TRYING
TO
HASTEN
THINGS...
SO
THEY'LL
STILL
BLOOM
IF HE
LEAVES
THEM
ALONE?



THAT IS
ALSO
SIMPLE
ENOUGH.

...WE
COULD
GET RID
OF THE
SEVEN
PILLARS.



WELL
...

SO HOW
DO WE
STOP THE
DIMEN-
SIONS
FROM
MERG-
ING?

THE
SOURCE
OF THE
FUSION
LIES IN
THE SEVEN
PILLARS
THEM-
SELVES.

RIGHT.

THEN
THAT
MEANS
...

BY GETTING
RID OF THE
PILLARS,
THE DIMEN-
SIONS ARE
PREVENTED
FROM
MERGING.

AS A
RESULT, THE
SUCCESS
RATE OF
TUNING SUP-
POSEDLY SKY-
ROCKETED.

WITH THE
PILLARS AS
A LANDMARK
ALIGNING THE
DIMENSIONS'
COORDINATES,
TUNING BECAME
POSSIBLE.

IN ORDER
TO RAISE
THE SUCCESS
RATE OF
TUNING, THE
SEVEN
PILLARS
WERE
FORMED
AS A LAND-
MARK BE-
TWEEN
THE TWO
DIMEN-
SIONS.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
SOURCE?

NOT
EVEN
WITH
THE
HIIZUMI
FAMILY'S
TUNING
POWER.

ORIGINAL-
LY, THINGS
COULDN'T
COME
AND GO
BETWEEN
THE DIMEN-
SIONS VERY
EASILY.

WHICH MEANS
OUR ONLY
OPTION IS TO
HAVE AKINA
SEND THEM TO
THE OTHER
SIDE WITH
TUNING, BUT...

APPARENTLY,
EVEN IF WE
CHOP THEM
DOWN, THEY'LL
STILL REMAIN
FUNCTIONAL.

THEN
WHY NOT
JUST
CHOP
'EM
DOWN?

HMM
...

SINCE THEY
SERVE AS A
CHANNEL
BETWEEN THE
DIMENSIONS, IT'S
NOT SURPRISING
THAT THEIR
EXISTENCE
ITSELF IS WHAT'S
CAUSING THE
DIMENSIONAL
FUSION.

SO, IF
AKINA TRIES
TO TUNE
SOMETHING
HE CAN'T
HANDLE LIKE
THE SEVEN
PILLARS, HE'LL
BE IN BIG
TROUBLE
AFTER JUST
ONE.

...THE
HIIZUMI
POWER
USES
ONE'S
OWN
BODY
AS COL-
LATERAL.
THE MORE
SOMEONE
USES IT, THE
MORE THEY
SLIP OUT OF
SYNC WITH
THIS WORLD.

UP
WE
GO.

NOT
NECES-
SARILY.

↑
↑
↑
SLIDE

THAT?

THERE
IS
THERE
NO
OTHER
WAY?

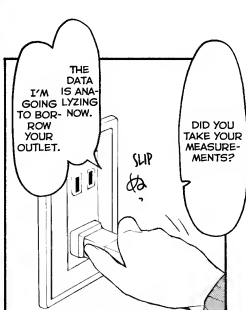
HE'LL
TURN
OUT
LIKE
THAT
...



SHIINA-SAN
SMOKES?



BITE
1st
2



THE
DATA
IS ANA-
LYZING
NOW.
I'M
GOING
TO BOR-
ROW
YOUR
OUTLET.

DID YOU
TAKE YOUR
MEASURE-
MENTS?

SLIP
da



YAAAY!
CAN I
HAVE
ONE?

CHOCO-
LATE?!



IT'S
CHOCO-
LATE.



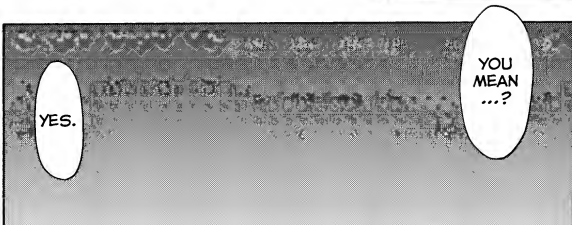
IT'S
SIMPLE. WE
JUST HAVE
TO OFFER
SOMETHING
ELSE AS A
TRIBUTE IN
PLACE OF
THE BURDEN
ON AKINA-
KUN'S
BODY.

AND THAT
SOMETHING
MUST BE
A "POWER"
THAT
DEVIATES
FROM THIS
REALM'S
PRINCI-
PLES.



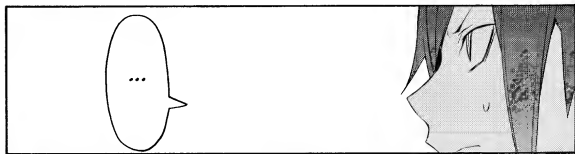
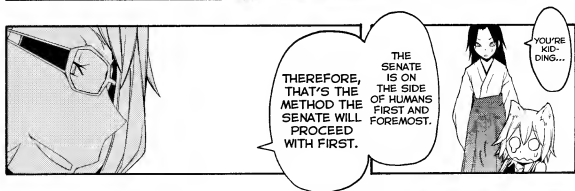
SHI-
NA-
SAN,

WHAT
DID YOU
MEAN
BY NOT NECES-
SARILY?



YES.

YOU
MEAN
...?



...WHAT IF
WE CAN'T
FIND A
METHOD
THAT
DOESN'T
SACRIFICE
THE
DEMONS?

THE
SENATE
ISN'T
HEART-
LESS,
YOU
KNOW.

BUT
...

THEN
WE'LL
DO IT...

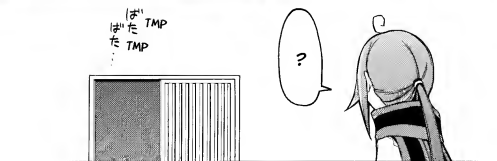
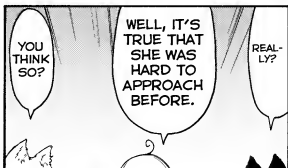
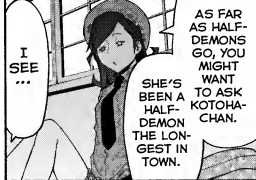
...WITHOUT
HESITATION.

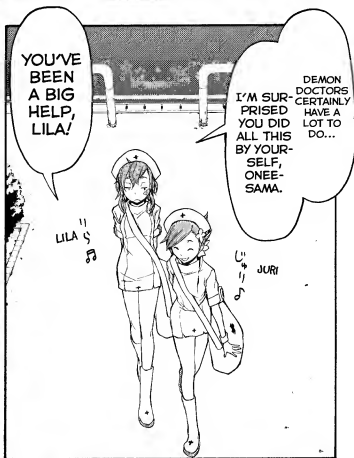
...BUT
HOW WILL
THIS TOWN
TREAT HALF-
DEMONS
LIKE ME?

I MORE OR
LESS GET
THE DEAL
WITH DE-
MONS AND
HUMANS...

UMM
...

...AWK-
WARD.







WHOA!

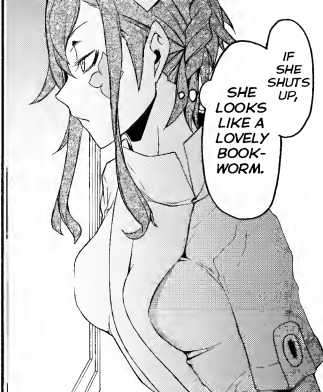
BA-DUM
BOOM!

STARE

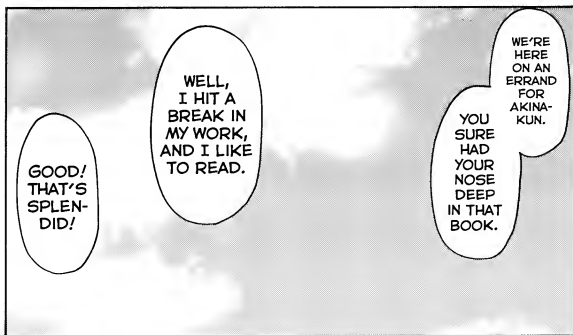


AAH,
THAT
STAR-
TLED
ME...
WHAT
CAN
I DO
FOR
YOU?

コン
THMP



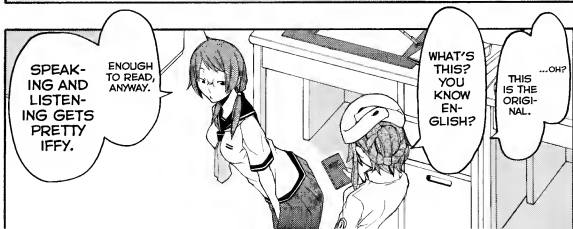
IF
SHE
SHUTS
UP,
SHE
LOOKS
LIKE A
LOVELY
BOOK-
WORM.



GOOD!
THAT'S
SPLEN-
DID!

WELL,
I HIT A
BREAK IN
MY WORK,
AND I LIKE
TO READ.

WE'RE
HERE
ON AN
ERRAND
FOR
AKINA-
KUN.
YOU
SURE
HAD
YOUR
NOSE
DEEP
IN THAT
BOOK.

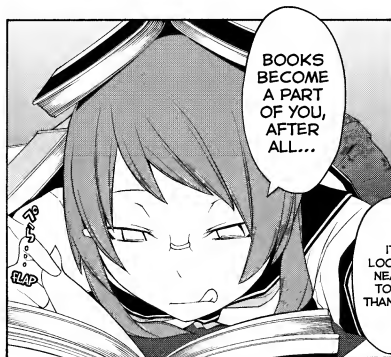
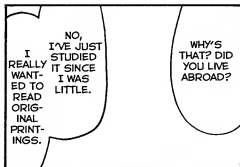


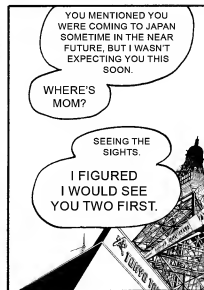
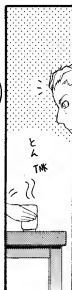
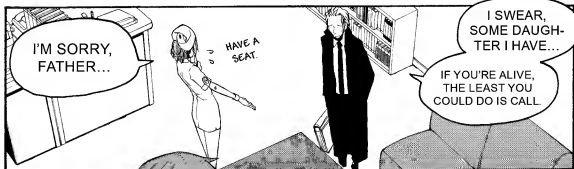
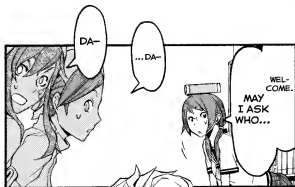
SPEAK-
ING AND
LISTEN-
ING GETS
PRETTY
IFFY.

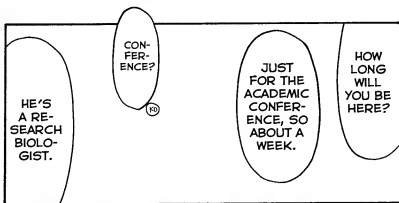
ENOUGH
TO READ,
ANYWAY.

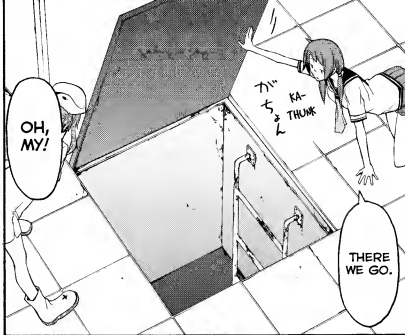
WHAT'S
THIS?
YOU
KNOW
EN-
GLISH?

...OH?
THIS
IS THE
ORIGI-
NAL.











IT
APPEARS
TO BE A
RECORD OF
RESEARCH-
ING THEM
NOT AS
"MATTER,"
BUT AS
"ORGAN-
ISMS."

THE
SEVEN
PIL-
LARS...
THOSE
GIANT
TREES,
EH?

WHO
DO
YOU
TAKE
ME
FOR?

CAN
YOU
READ
IT,
DAD-
DY?

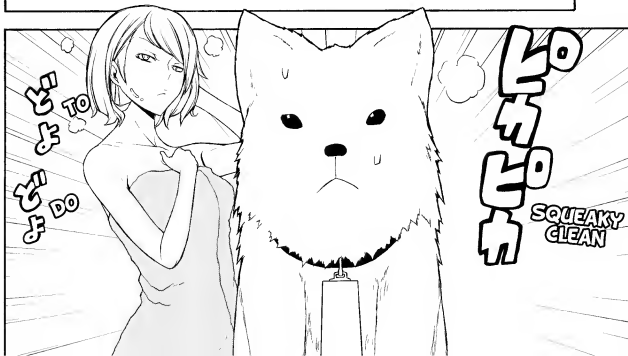
THERE'S A
LOT OF
JARGON AS
WELL, SO IT
WOULD BE
DIFFICULT
FOR A
LAYMAN
TO READ.

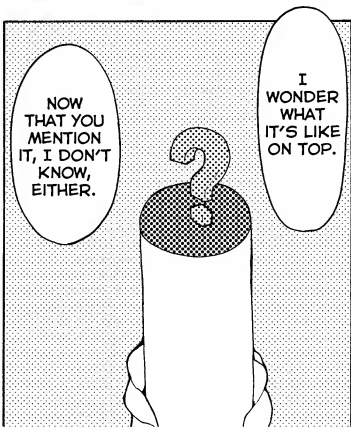
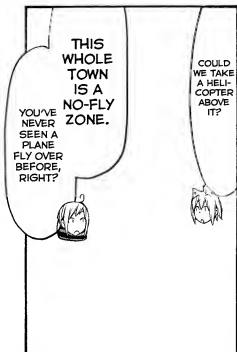
HE'S THE
ONE WHO
BUILT THE
FOUNDATION
OF OUR
FAMILY'S
BIOLOGICAL
RESEARCH.

WHAT?!
THEN
THIS
BOOK IS
FROM
THE
EDO
PERIOD
?!

FLAP
10
5
...

LET'S
SEE...





THE SHAPE IS SUCH THAT SIMPLY CLIMBING TO THE TOP IS DIFFICULT, AND IT'S BEEN PUT OFF UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE ISN'T ANYTHING UP THERE TO BEGIN WITH.

IT'S HARD TO ADMIT, BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANY DATA, EITHER.

WHAT ABOUT THE SEN-ATE?

IT'S DANGEROUS TO FLY, AND SATELLITES CAN'T EVEN TAKE PICTURES.

THERE'S MAGNETIC INTERFERENCE, AFTER ALL.

HUH? REALLY?!



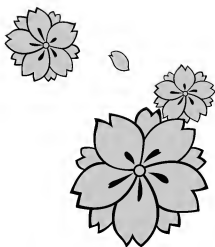
NOW THAT THE SHAPE'S CHANGING, IT'S NO LONGER IMPOSSIBLE.

...

THERE'S STILL SO MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THE SEVEN PILLARS.

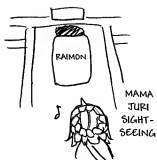
WHY DON'T WE TRY GIVING IT A CLIMB?

AL-RIGHTY.



YOZAKURA
QUARTET

12



AND
AFTER
WAIT-
ING A
NIGHT
...

WELL, WE'LL
JUST HAVE
TO PUT THAT
MUCH MORE
EFFORT
INTO INVESTI-
GATING.

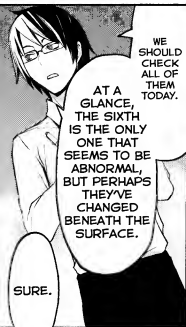
...WE JUST
LEISURELY
ASSESS THE
SITUATION.



WE
SHOULD
CHECK
ALL OF
THEM
TODAY.

AT A
GLANCE,
THE SIXTH
IS THE ONLY
ONE THAT
SEEMS TO BE
ABNORMAL,
BUT PERHAPS
THEY'VE
CHANGED
BENEATH THE
SURFACE.

SURE.



WE'VE
LOOKED
AT THE
SEVEN
PILLARS
SINCE
WE WERE
KIDS.

I
CAN'T
BLAME
HER.

WHO'D
HAVE
THOUGHT
SOME-
THING LIKE
THAT'D
HAPPEN?



WHICH
OF THE
PILLARS
WAS HIME
GOING
TO FIRST
AGAIN?

TMP
? !

NUMBER
SIX, THE
ONE THAT
SPLIT INTO
TWO.

SHE
WANTED
TO TAKE
A LOOK
AT THAT
ONE
FIRST.

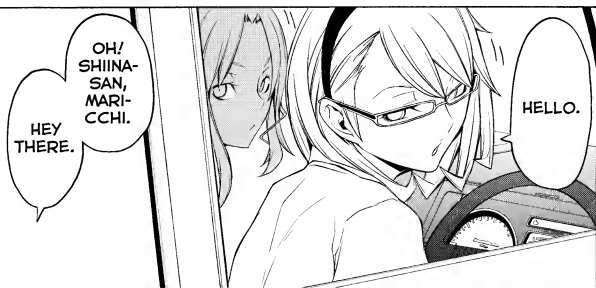
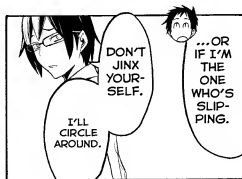




A black and white manga-style illustration. In the foreground, two figures are walking away from the viewer on a path made of logs laid across a chasm. The figure on the left is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants, while the figure on the right is wearing a dark shirt and light-colored pants. The path of logs leads into the distance, where it disappears into a misty or hazy area. The background consists of steep, rocky cliffs on either side of the chasm, with some clouds visible in the sky. A speech bubble is located in the upper right quadrant of the page.

HERE WE
ARE.

#64 STORY (PART TWO)



HMM.
CAN'T
SAY I'VE
SEEN
HIM.

AN
ACQUAIN-
TANCE
IS IN
TOWN,
BUT IT
SEEMS
HE'S
WANDER-
ED OFF
SOME-
WHERE
...

LOOK-
ING
FOR
SOME-
ONE?

HERE'S
FINE. I'LL
SEARCH
BY MYSELF
NOW.

THANK
YOU.

わ HUB

わ BUB

I'LL TRY
CALLING
AGAIN.

CAN'T
REACH
HIM BY
PHONE?

OH,
IT'S THE
LOCAL
POSTER
GIRL...

...AND
A FOR-
EIGNER?

HUB
わ
BUB
わ

BUT
R TO
THE
I-N...

MY APOLO-
GIES.
I WAS
HOPING TO
ASK FOR
DIREC-
TIONS.

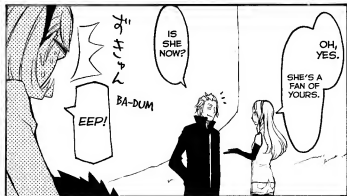
PHEW...
I WAS
SWEATING
THERE FOR
A MINUTE.

I DON'T
SPEAK
ENGLISH!

AH!
AKINA-
SAN!
HELP
MEEE!

HEEEY!
INRAY!







SAY,
BOY!

IT'S HIS
CONTACT
INFO...

@fushin...

WHAT A
SPRIGHTLY
FELLOW.

YOUNG
HIIZUMI!

I HOPE
WE MEET
AGAIN!

IF YOU
HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS,
FEEL
FREE TO
CONTACT
ME AT ANY
TIME!

...BUT
ALSO
REGULAR
HUMANS
FROM
NOT SO
REGULAR
ONES.

THOSE
SORTS OF
DIFFER-
ENCES.

AND NOT
JUST BE-
ING ABLE
TO DIS-
TINGUISH
BETWEEN
HUMANS
AND DE-
MONS...

HOW
DID YOU
KNOW HE
WAS A
HIIZUMI?

YOU
BEGIN
TO PICK
UP ON
THINGS
AFTER
BEING IN
THIS FIELD
FOR SO
LONG.

LIKE
WHAT THE
SEVEN
PILLARS
REALLY
ARE.

I HAVE
A TON,
TO BE
HONEST.

QUESTIONS,
HUH?

SKE
+

OR
MAYBE I
ALREADY
KNOW.

...THEN
THINGS
COULDN'T
GET ANY
CRUELER.

AND
IF MY
SUSPICIONS
ARE
RIGHT
...

LET'S
GET IN
TOUCH
WITH
HIME.

LOOKS
PERFECTLY
NORMAL
TO ME.

AKI-
NA!
WELL?

MRRR
...

I WANT
TO DO
MAGIC
USING
THE
SEVEN
PILLARS
...

...BUT
I NEED
SOME
SORT
OF GIM-
MICK.

GIM-
MICK?

WHAT
HAS YOU
GROAN-
ING,
LILA?

MRRR-
RR...

US
PAT
PAT
PAT

BING
BING
BING

JUST
DON'T
SLACK
OFF ON
YOUR
DOCTOR
WORK!

YEP,
YEP.

THAT'S
HOW
IT IS.

THAT'S
WHY I'M
ALWAYS
PRE-
PARING
THINGS,
DAY
IN, DAY
OUT.

OF
COURSE
IT DOES.
I DON'T
HAVE
SPECIAL
POWERS,
AFTER
ALL.

YOUR
MAGIC
USES
GIM-
MICKS?

I WANT
TO TURN
THIS
TOWN
INTO MY
STAGE.

MAYBE
SHE WORKED
UP A SWEAT
CARRYING ALL
THAT EQUIP-
MENT.

SHIINA-
SAN WENT
TO TAKE
A BATH.

ぱた
ぱた
PATER
PATER
.....

FOR
A GOD,
SHE
SURE
SLEEPS
A LOT...

MHM
...

WHEEOW! SO
SMOOTH!

YAE-
SAN'S
SOCKS!

ころ
ころ
ROLL

I
GUESS
SO. WAIT,
WHAT
ARE YOU
WEARING,
AO?

YAAAAWN.
MY LEGS
FEEL
KIND OF
DRAFTY...

OH,
SHE
WOKE
UP.

むく
むく
SIT

FWAP



WHERE
DID MY
SOCKS
GO...?

WH-

WH-

WH-
WH-
WH-



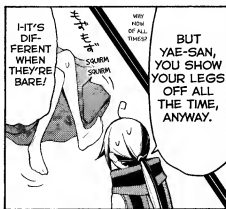
OOP!

HOW
EM-
BAR-
RASS-
ING...

THUD



H-
H-
H-



IT'S
DIF-
FERENT
WHEN
THEY'RE
BARE!

VERY
HIGH
OF ALL
TIMES!

BUT
YAE-SAN,
YOU SHOW
YOUR LEGS
OFF ALL
THE TIME,
ANYWAY.



AAAHN...

O.O.

SHE
FAINT-
ED.
SOME
GOD...

AO,
GIVE
HER
BACK
HER
SOCKS.
I FEEL
BAD FOR
HER.

WE
MADE
A GOD
FAINT.

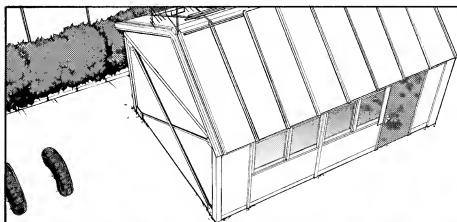
YEAH,
I'LL
DO
THAT
...

DON'T
EXPERI-
MENT!

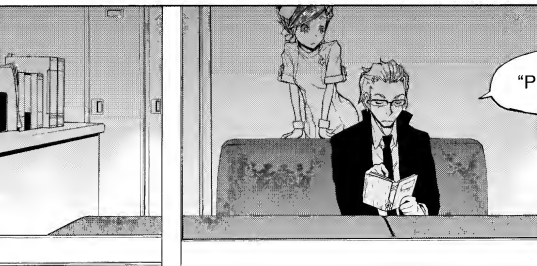
I
WONDER
WHAT'LL
HAPPEN
IF WE
LEAVE
JUST
ONE
OFF.



ほう
ん
、
Toss



WELL,
THEN.

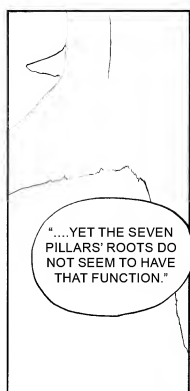


"PREFACE."

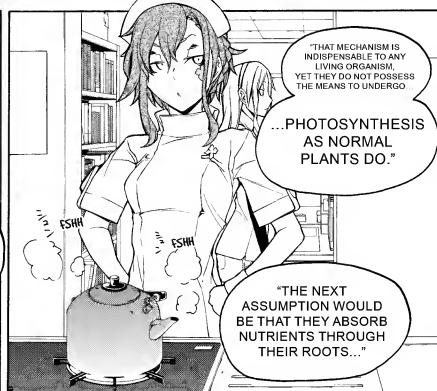


"...WHAT BECOMES
IMMEDIATELY UNCLEAR
IS HOW THEY GENERATE
ORGANIC ENERGY."

"WHEN THINKING
OF THE SEVEN
PILLARS AS
ORGANISMS..."



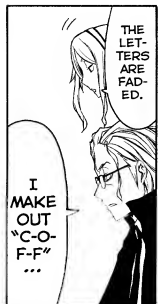
"....YET THE SEVEN
PILLARS' ROOTS DO
NOT SEEM TO HAVE
THAT FUNCTION."



"THAT MECHANISM IS
INDISPENSABLE TO ANY
LIVING ORGANISM,
YET THEY DO NOT POSSESS
THE MEANS TO UNDERGO..."

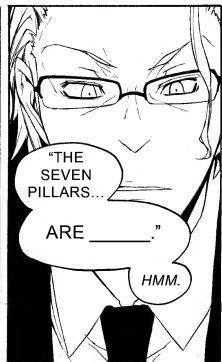
"...PHOTOSYNTHESIS
AS NORMAL
PLANTS DO."

"THE NEXT
ASSUMPTION WOULD
BE THAT THEY ABSORB
NUTRIENTS THROUGH
THEIR ROOTS..."



THE
LET-
TERS
ARE
FAD-
ED.

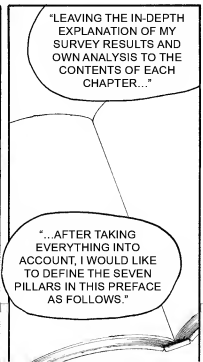
I
MAKE
OUT
"C-O-
F-F"
...



"THE
SEVEN
PILLARS..."

ARE ____."

HMM.



"LEAVING THE IN-DEPTH
EXPLANATION OF MY
SURVEY RESULTS AND
OWN ANALYSIS TO THE
CONTENTS OF EACH
CHAPTER..."

"...AFTER TAKING
EVERYTHING INTO
ACCOUNT, I WOULD LIKE
TO DEFINE THE SEVEN
PILLARS IN THIS PREFACE
AS FOLLOWS."

MIGHT
THAT BE
IT?

"COFFEE."

と
ん
TAK

stuff
す、

WELL,
THEIR
SHAPE MAY
BE CLOSER
TO COFFEE
TREES
THAN TO
SAKURA...

WOULDN'T
THAT BE
SURPRIS-
ING?

"THE
SEVEN
PILLARS
ARE COF-
FEE..."

YOU
MEAN
THEY'RE
COFFEE
TREES?

ぱ
た
ぱ
た
PAT
PAT

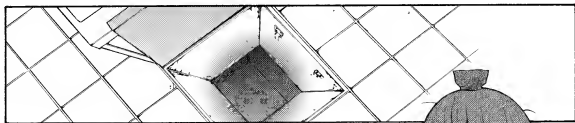
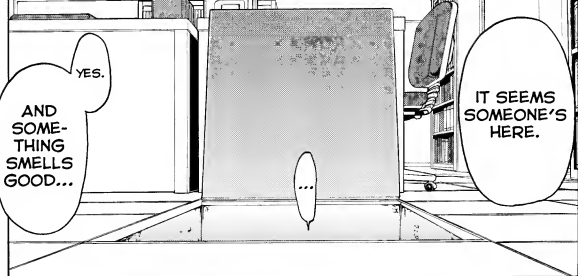
NOW
THEN
...

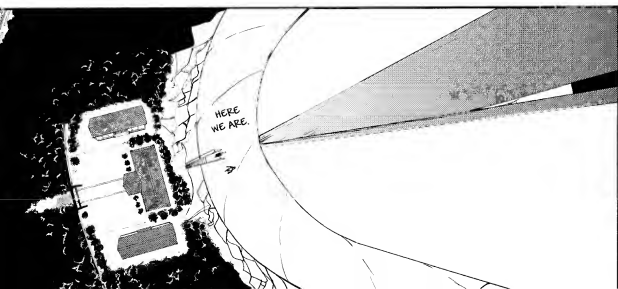
AT ANY
RATE, WE
SHOULD
FIND OUT
IF WE KEEP
READING.

AKINA-
SAAN! I
TRIED A
GOOD STEW
RECIPE I
THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT-

HEL-
LOOO!

カ
チャ
CLACK







"KAAAY."

YOU
WAIT
HERE,
AO.

UWAH!

ZAKURO
SQUAD,
REPORT-
ING FOR
DUTY!

あ、せ
SHUFFLE

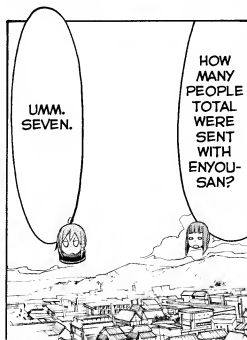
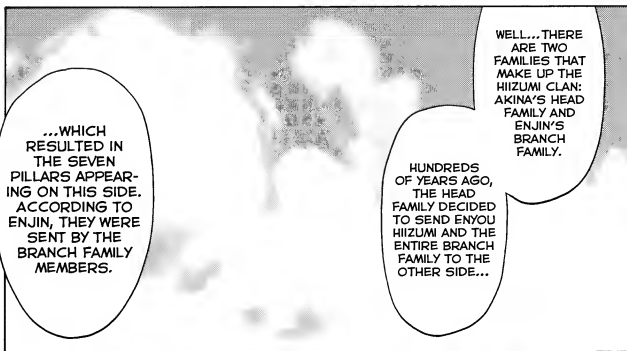
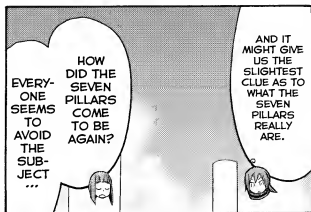
あ、せ
SHUFFLE

DON'T
WORRY!
I'LL
PROTECT
YOU.

IT'S
PRETTY
SCARY,
EVEN
WITH A
LIFE-
LINE...

FWOOP

FWOOP



FU
FU...
FU.

ZOOSH

I'LL
PASS

FU FU
FU...
I CAN
COM-
MAND
EVEN
MORE
IF NEED
BE.

YOU CAN
CONTROL
THIS MANY
AT ONCE...
THAT'S A
NECRO-
MANCER
FOR YOU.

ZOOOSH

AAH
...

ZAKU-
RO?!

...?

...I'M
ALL
RIGHT.
I CAN
MAKE IT
TO THE
TOP.

FWAH
?!

WHAT'S
WRONG?!

ZAKU-
RO!

WE'RE
HERE

**ガ
リ**

KA-THUNK

LET'S
HAVE
SHIINA-
SAN TAKE
A LOOK AT
YOU ONCE
WE GET
DOWN.

I
SENSE
AN ILL
PRES-
ENCE...





! HE'S HURT?



... THAT'S A FINE GREETING.

WHAT AM I DOING?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP HERE?!



...

YOU CAN STRIKE ME DOWN EFFORTLESSLY IF YOU'D LIKE.

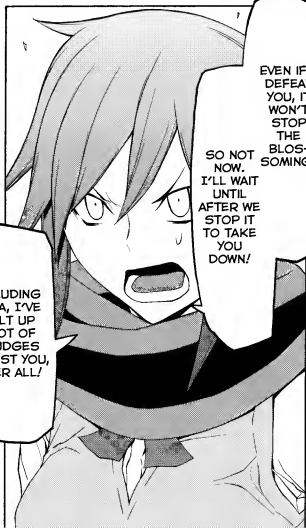
WELL? NOW'S YOUR CHANCE.

...OH, YOU KNOW.

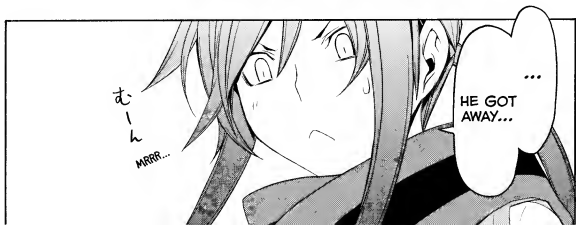
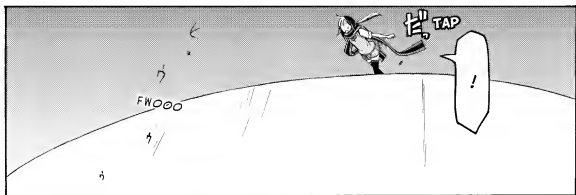
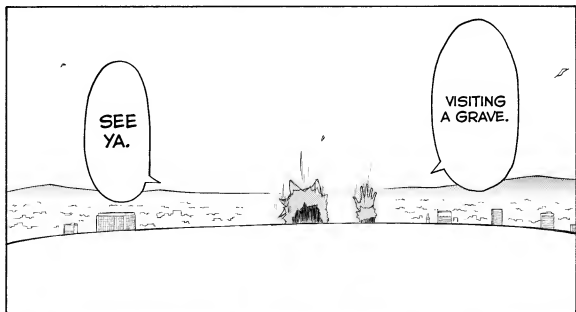
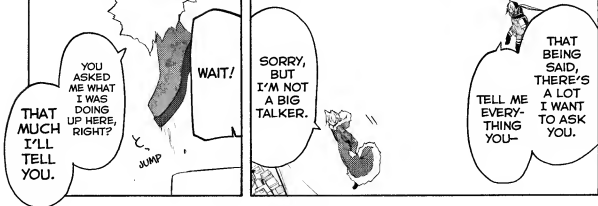


...I LOOK FORWARD TO IT.

INCLUDING SILVA, I'VE BUILT UP A LOT OF GRUDGES AGAINST YOU, AFTER ALL!

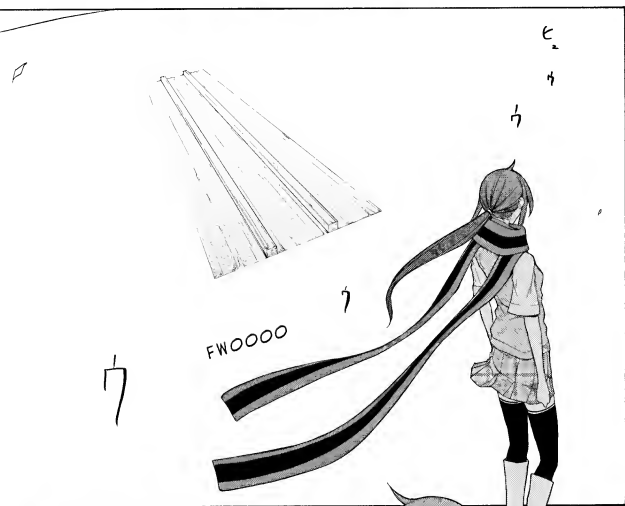


EVEN IF I DEFEAT YOU, IT WON'T STOP THE BLOSSOMING!
SO NOT NOW. I'LL WAIT UNTIL AFTER WE STOP IT TO TAKE YOU DOWN!





STILL,
I DON'T
SEE ANY-
THING.
I GUESS
WE CAME
UP HERE
FOR
NOTHING.

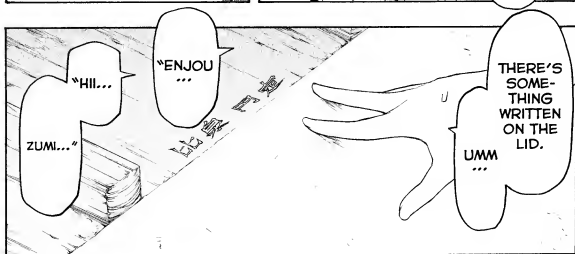


WHAT'S
THIS?

A
LID?

FWUMP







...

THE NAME
OF ONE
OF THE
ENYOU'S
FAMILY
MEMBERS
...

HIME!



THEN
...

HUH
...?



HIME!



“ENJOU
HIIZUMI.”

ISN'T
THAT...?

"AS THE RESULT OF
MY ANALYSIS..."

"...I BELIEVE THE MECHANISM
OR OBJECT PROVIDING THE
PILLARS WITH ENERGY TO BE
LOCATED WITHIN THE BODIES
OF THE SEVEN PILLARS
THEMSELVES."

"WITH THE
AFOREMENTIONED
IN MIND, I'D LIKE TO
DEFINE THE SEVEN
PILLARS AS
FOLLOWS."

"THE SEVEN
PILLARS ARE
GIGANTIC..."

"...C-O-F-F...?"

OH,
GOD
...

I'M
SORRY,
AKINA.

I
CAN'T
...

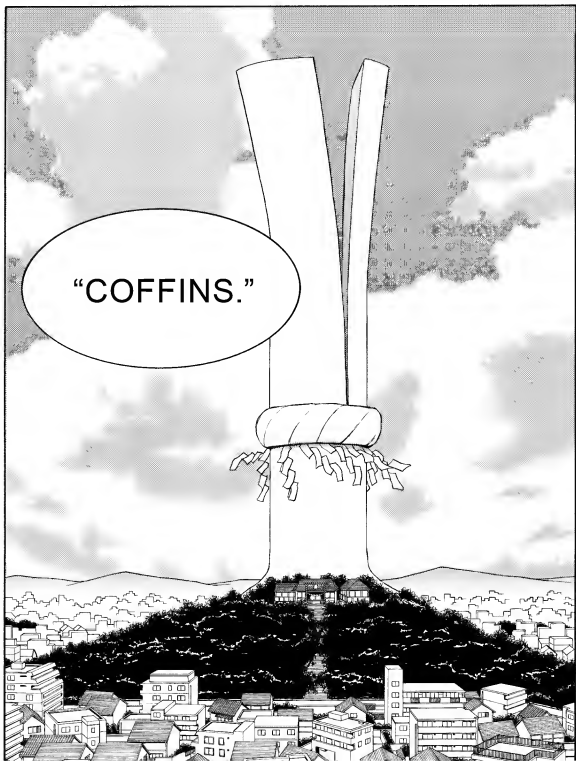
I'M
SORRY.

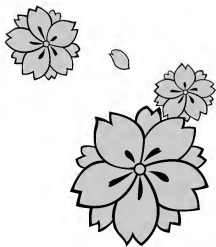
I CAN'T
OPEN
THIS...

the coffin

“...I-N-S.”

“COFFINS.”





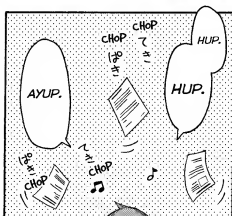
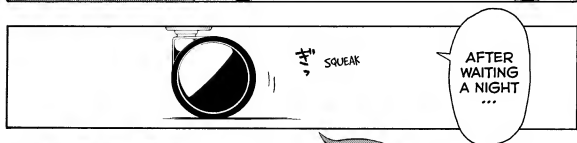
YOZAKURA
QUARTET

12





YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12

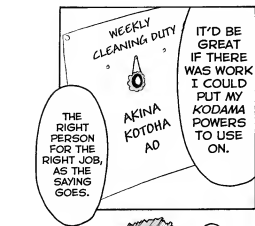


ALL
DONE.

65TH NIGHT

STORY (PART THREE)

Sign: Hiizumi Life
Counseling Office





HEEEY!
AIRHEAD!

ME?



HEY,
THERE.
YOU'RE
LOOK-
ING
WELL.

KYAAA! HE
TOUCHED
THEM
AGAIN!

HIDE
YOUR
CHEST
MORE.

da
MOOSH

I JUST
SAID
THAT
SINCE
YOU'RE
SO DE-
FENSE-
LESS.

YEAH,
I
KNOW.

MY
NAME IS
ZAKURO,
NOT AIR-
HEAD.



HMM
...

MARIA-
BELL'S PICKING
UP A VISITOR.
SOUNDS
LIKE A
DRAG,
SO I'M
WAITING
HERE.



I
SWEAR
...

THERE
WE GO...

BUT
IT'S
NOT
EVERY
DAY
YOU
GO
SOLO.

OUCH...

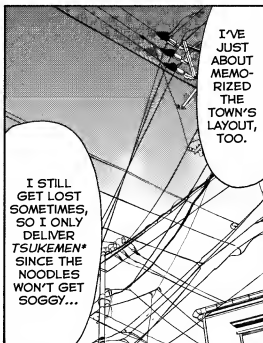


I
MADE
IT!

TSUKE-
MEN? OLD MAN
HOHORAN
STARTED
SELLIN'
SOME-
THING
TRENDY
LIKE THAT?

OH,
YEAH?

蘭



I STILL
GET LOST
SOMETIMES,
SO I ONLY
DELIVER
TSUKEMEN*
SINCE THE
NOODLES
WON'T GET
SOGGY...

I'VE
JUST
ABOUT
MEMO-
RIZED
THE
TOWN'S
LAYOUT,
TOO.



ARE
YOU
DOING
DELIV-
ERIES?

THAT'S
RIGHT!

*A type of ramen in which the noodles and soup are separate.

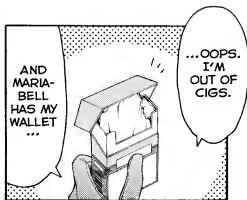
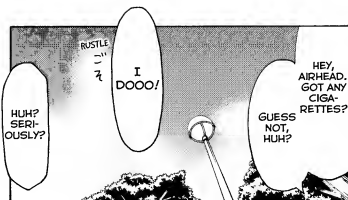


...
I
SEE.



IF I'D
STAYED
FALLEN,
I...

WORK
FEELS
MEANING-
FUL, AND
SCHOOL
IS FUN.
I'M
REALLY
GLAD I
CAME
TO THIS
TOWN.



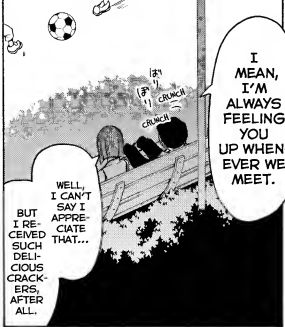
Package: Senbei Rice Crackers





THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE I WANT TO SHARE WITH IN THIS TOWN, I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO DO!

TASTY THINGS SHOULD BE SHARED WITH OTHERS.



WELL, I CAN'T SAY I APPRECIATE THAT... BUT I RECEIVED SUCH DELICIOUS CRACKERS, AFTER ALL.

I MEAN, I'M ALWAYS FEELING YOU UP WHENEVER WE MEET.

HMM ...

CRUNCH ぽん
CRUNCH ぽん



...TALK ABOUT A TRANSFORMATION.

GYAAAH!

GROPE

STILL, TRY NOT TO LET YOUR GUARD DOWN SO MUCH.



THAT DOES IT FOR CLEANING!



ALSO, I
NEED A
CUSHION...

I
HAVE
TO
UNDER-
STAND
THEM
MORE
IN-DEPTH.

KNOWING
THINGS
ON A
SURFACE
LEVEL
ISN'T
ENOUGH
FOR
KOTO-
DAMA.

MY
BODY
CAN'T
TAKE
ANY
MORE.

...I
GIVE
UP.
THAT'S
ENOUGH
FOR
TODAY.



NOW,
THEN
...

♪
♪ TNK
♪

BOOKS
ARE
GREAT.

YES,
BOOKS
ARE A
WON-
DERFUL
THING.

ONTO
MY LONG-
AWAITED
READING
TIME...
I
WON-
DER
IF I'LL
BE
ABLE
TO
FINISH
THIS
ONE
TODAY.

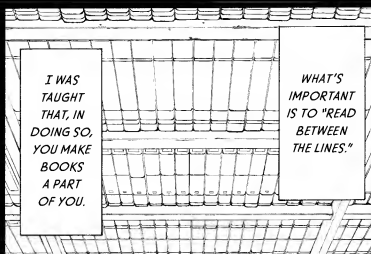


I'D PREFER
SOMETHING
LIKE "LITER-
ATURE LADY,"
BUT I GUESS
I WAS STILL
JUST A KID.

...BUT
WHEN I
THINK
ABOUT
IT NOW,
THEY
WERE AB-
SOLUTELY
RIGHT.



I READ
BOOKS
EVEN
MORE
WHEN
I WAS
LITTLE.
I DIDN'T
UNDER-
STAND
WHY
PEOPLE
CALLED
ME A
BOOK-
WORM...



I WAS
TAUGHT
THAT, IN
DOING SO,
YOU MAKE
BOOKS
A PART
OF YOU.

WHAT'S
IMPORTANT
IS TO "READ
BETWEEN
THE LINES."

WHEN
READING
BOOKS,
IT'S NOT
ENOUGH
TO JUST
FOLLOW THE
TRAIL OF
WORDS.
THAT ONLY
RESULTS
IN SURFACE-
LEVEL
KNOWLEDGE.



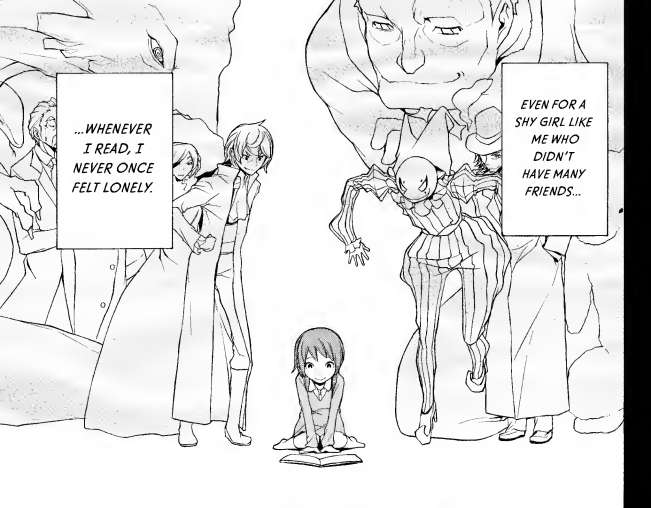
UNTIL THE
CHARACTERS
PORTRAYED
BECAME MY
FRIENDS.

...AND
EVEN
DEEP-
ER.

AS A CHILD,
I HAD A
HABIT OF
READING
BETWEEN
THE LINES A
BIT TOO
MUCH.

I'D FALL
DEEPER,
DEEPER...





...WHENEVER
I READ, I
NEVER ONCE
FELT LONELY.

EVEN FOR A
SHY GIRL LIKE
ME WHO
DIDN'T
HAVE MANY
FRIENDS...

IT'S
TRUE.

AREN'T
YOU JUST
BLUFFING?

THOUGH
THERE
IS JUST
ONE
PROB-
LEM.

THAT'S
WHY
I STILL
LOVE
BOOKS.

EVEN
AFTER I
FELL, WAS
EXOR-
CISED,
AND
BECAME
A HALF-
DEMON,
CHANGE.

WHOA!
THAT
STARTLED
ME!

UM,
SHIINA-
SAN...

ど
た
THUD

ど
た
THUD

ど
た
THUD

SHI-
NA!

UM...
MISS
SENATOR?

THEIR
PERSONA
CHANGES
WHEN
THEY
FIRST
FALL,
THEN
CHANGES
AGAIN
WHEN
THEY'RE
EXOR-
CISED.

...FALL,
ARE
EXOR-
CISED,
AND
BECOME
HALF-
DE-
MONS.

HU-
MANS
...

RIGHT.
THEY JUST
RETURN
TO THE
OUTSET.
SO
THERE
SHOULDN'T
BE ANY
DRASTIC
CHANGES.

BUT,
THEN
...

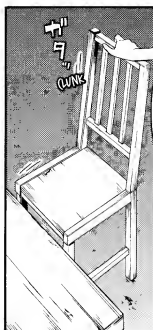
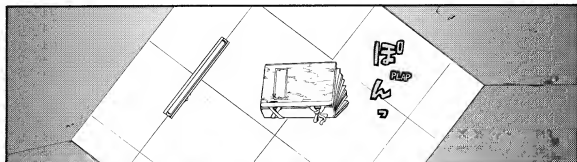
AAH,
YOU
MEAN
BE-
FORE
SHE
FELL?

THIS
KOTOHA-
SAN IS
A HALF-
DEMON,
COR-
RECT?
I WAS
WON-
DERING
IF
SHE'S
ANY
DIFFER-
ENT NOW
FROM
HOW SHE
USED
TO BE.

SHE
BECAME
MUCH
MORE
CHEERFUL
THAN
BEFORE.

ど
た
ど
た
THUD

BUT FALLING
DID LEAVE
SOME SORT
OF IMPACT
ON HER
MENTALITY.
ON HER
OUTLOOK
ON LIFE,
SO TO
SPEAK.





...AND DIG
THROUGH
BOOK
AFTER
BOOK.

RIGHT
HERE.

I'D
SIT
HERE
...



I SURE
WAS A
CHARM-
LESS
KID...



...CAN
I READ
SOME
BOOKS?

AKINA'S
GRANDPA
...



YOU
SURE HAVE
PECULIAR
TASTES,
COMING
HERE TIME
AND TIME
AGAIN.

HEY,
THERE.
COME
ON IN.

ALL
RIGHT.
DON'T
STAY
DOWN
THERE
TOO
LONG.

WELL, I
GUESS
THAT'S
HOW BOYS
OUGHT
TO BE.

IT'D BE
NICE IF
AKINA WOULD
READ A
LITTLE MORE
INSTEAD OF
RUNNING
AROUND ALL
THE TIME.

THEY'RE
OLD AND
DUSTY,
THAT'S
FOR SURE.

THIS
PLACE
HAS A
LOT OF
UNUSUAL
BOOKS.

7'11"
KA-THUNK

9'4"
FOH

...THIS
DIMNESS
IS NICE.

THEN
AGAIN
...

IT'S
BRIGHT-
ER, BUT
STILL
DARK.

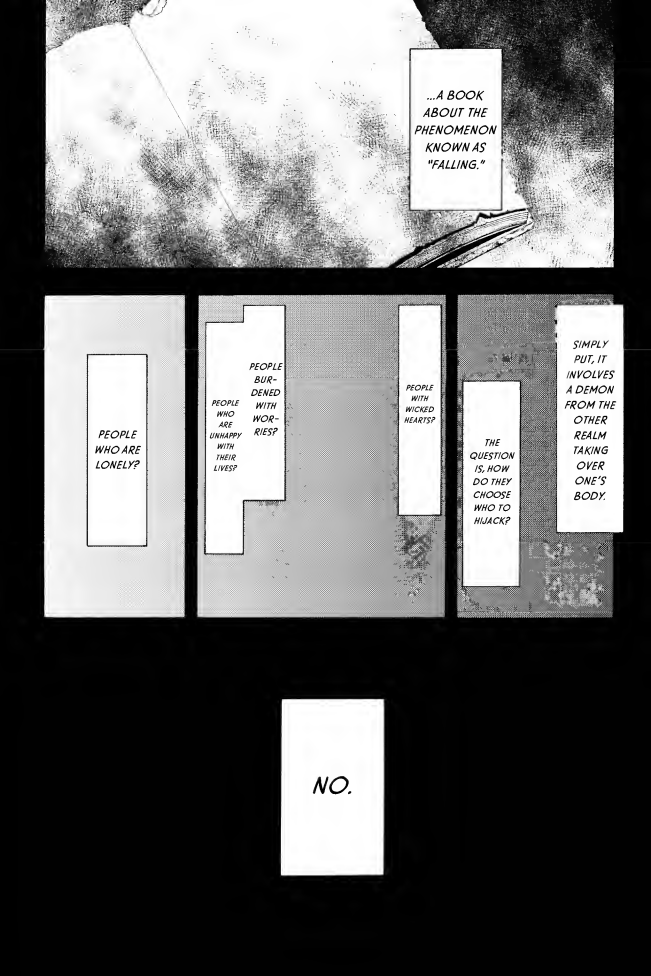
AND...

BOOKS
ABOUT
THE SEVEN
PILLARS...
THAT WERE
TOO
DIFFICULT
FOR ME
TO READ.

BOOKS
ABOUT
TUNING.

BOOKS
ABOUT
THE TWO
REALMS.

HERE I
READ
BOOKS
THAT
COULDN'T
BE FOUND
ANYWHERE
ELSE.



...A BOOK
ABOUT THE
PHENOMENON
KNOWN AS
"FALLING."

PEOPLE
WHO ARE
LONELY?

PEOPLE
BUR-
DENED
WITH
WOR-
RIES?
PEOPLE
WHO
ARE
UNHAPPY
WITH
THEIR
LIVES?

PEOPLE
WITH
WICKED
HEARTS?

THE
QUESTION
IS, HOW
DO THEY
CHOOSE
WHO TO
HIJACK?

SIMPLY
PUT, IT
INVOLVES
A DEMON
FROM THE
OTHER
REALM
TAKING
OVER
ONE'S
BODY.

NO.

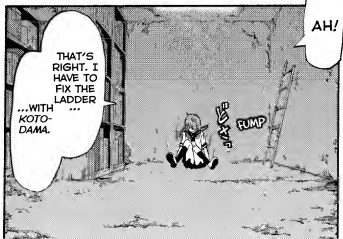
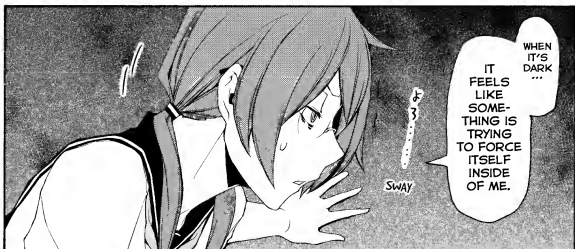


A black and white manga panel showing a character with short dark hair, seen from behind, looking up at a massive, brilliant white light source in the sky. The light radiates outwards in many sharp lines, illuminating the surrounding city buildings which are shown in a perspective that makes them appear to be falling or receding into the distance. The character is wearing a dark jacket over a light shirt and has a bag slung over their shoulder.

ALL
IT IS...

...IS A CASE
OF BAD
LUCK.







HALF-
DEMON
POWER...

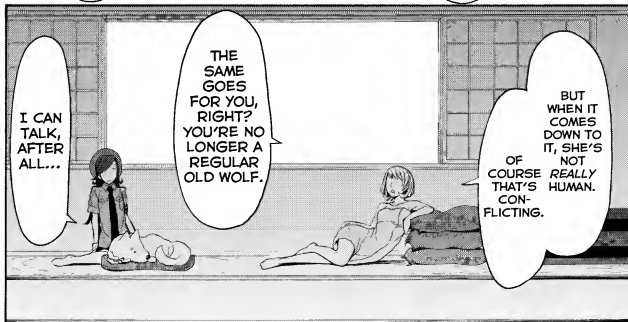


OR
SO
WE
SAY.

SHE'S
BOTH
HUMAN
AND
NOT.

I STILL
THINK
SHE'S
CON-
FLICTED
INSIDE.

EVEN IF
SHE'S
MORE
CHEER-
FUL,



I CAN
TALK,
AFTER
ALL...

THE
SAME
GOES
FOR YOU,
RIGHT?
YOU'RE NO
LONGER A
REGULAR
OLD WOLF.

BUT
WHEN IT
COMES
DOWN TO
IT, SHE'S
NOT
REALLY
HUMAN.
CON-
FLICTING.



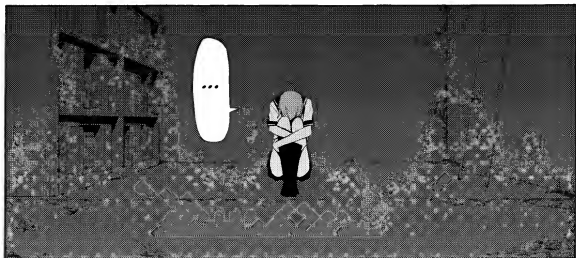


I'M
SCARED!

AAH!
DON'T
LEAVE
ME ALONE
WITH
SHIINA-
SAN.



...WHAT
WAS
THAT
ABOUT?



...CANNOT
KILL "PEOPLE"
WITHOUT
REASON, EVEN
IF NO ONE ELSE
FINDS OUT.

IT IS UN-
QUESTION-
ABLE THAT
"PEOPLE"...

THEY SAY
PSYCHO-
PATHS ARE
CAPABLE
OF KILLING
BUT MORE
OFTEN THAN
NOT, THE
REASON IS
FOR SIMPLE
"PLEASURE."

IT'S A WAY OF
THINKING THAT
CALLS BACK TO
THE OLD SAYING,
"THE SUN IS
ALWAYS
WATCHING."

THERE EXISTS
SOMETHING
KNOWN AS THE
"SUPEREGO"
IN THE HEARTS
OF "PEOPLE"
MORALITY,
ETHICS,
THOSE
SORTS OF
BRAKES. WHICH ACTS AS
BRAKES FOR
THEIR ACTIONS.



BUT A HEART
WHICH HAS
"FALLEN" IS
CAPABLE OF
SUCH A FEAT.

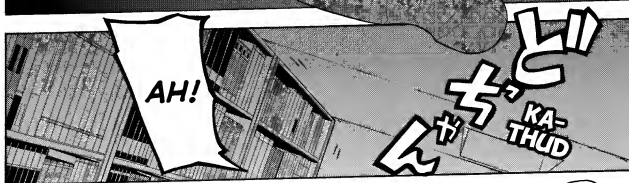
KILL...

AND THEY
HAVE THE
POWER
TO KILL
PEOPLE.

KILL!

KILL
THEM
EASILY.

...PEO-
PLE.





ONII-
CHAN!



KYO-
SUKE!

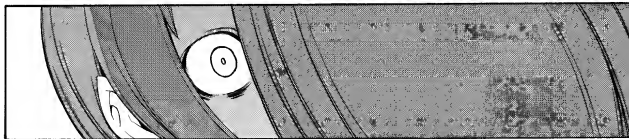






"KITCHEN KNIVES."

SHING





...NO,
NOW'S
NOT THE
TIME FOR
THAT!
KOTOHA-
CHAN!



....ASH/
MY
TONGUE!

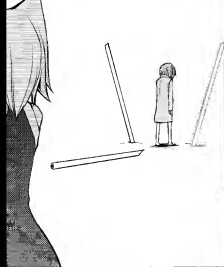


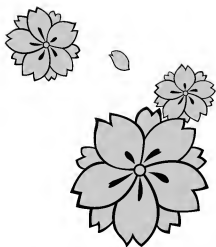
KOTOHA-
CHAAAAN!

KOTOHA-
CHAN!



...WILL
SHE
REALLY
BE
OKAY?



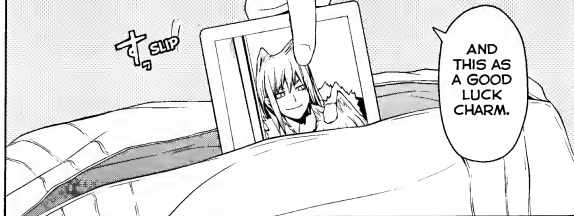


YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12 



YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12





AND
THIS AS
A GOOD
LUCK
CHARM.



I'M
OFF!

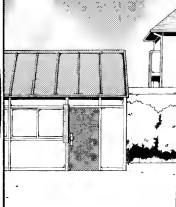
#66: STORY (PART FOUR)

WEEKLY
CLEANING DUTY



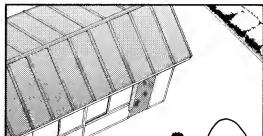
AKINA
KOTOHA
AD

LOOKS
LIKE
KOTOHA-
CHAN'S ON
CLEANING
DUTY THIS
WEEK.



し
し
し
SWISH

WELL
...
I'LL
JUST DO
IT FOR
HER.



MORN-
ING.

ど
ど
DO TO

MOR-
NIN'!

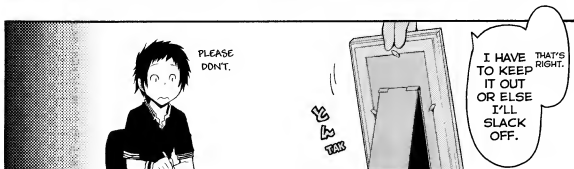
GOOD
MORN-
ING!

THIS
IS PART
OF A
WIFE'S
JOB,
TOO.

JUST
KIDDING.

SHE SAID
THERE WAS
A BOOK SHE
WANTED TO
READ, SO
I'LL GIVE
HER MORE
FREE TIME.









Sign: Hiizumi Life
Counseling Office





...BUT SHE'S
REALLY
JUST A
KIND GIRL.

NOW SHE'S
ALWAYS
ON HER
TOES SINCE
SHE'S THE
MAYOR...



HIME-CHAN
USED TO BE
SO TIMID
WHEN SHE
WAS LITTLE.

OH,
WELL.

...HM? HOW
DID WE
BECOME
FRIENDS
AGAIN?



I BECAME
FRIENDS WITH
KOTOHA-
CHAN A
WHILE AFTER
EVERYONE
ELSE.



AND
THE ONE
WHO'D
ALWAYS
BREAK
THEM UP
WAS...

SAYING
KYOSUKE-
SAN
SPOILED
TOUKA-
CHAN TOO
MUCH.

PROBABLY
BECAUSE
AKINA-SAN
USED TO
MEDDLE
A LOT,

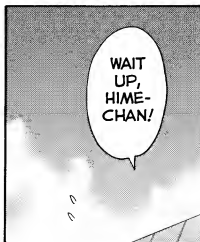


AKINA-
SAN AND
KYOSUKE-
SAN WERE
ALWAYS
FIGHTING.

AAAAO!



WAS...



WAIT
UP,
HIME-
CHAN!



...AH!

HURRY
UP, OR
I'LL
LEAVE
YOU BE-
HIND!



DON'T
LOOK
SO
DOWN.

AO...

...

...BE-
CAUSE
I'M A
SATO-
RI.

BUT...
THERE
ARE
PLENTY
OF
OTHER
DE-
MONS
BE-
SIDES
YOU.

WE
ORIG-
INALLY
BELONG
IN THAT
DIMEN-
SION,
AFTER
ALL.

THE
BURDEN
OF
SENDING
A DEMON
IS LIGHTER
THAN
SENDING
A HUMAN.

...

WHY
DO YOU
HAVE TO
BE SENT
TO THE
OTHER
SIDE, NII-
SAN?

WE NEED
ANY CLUES
WE CAN GET
AS TO HOW
TO STOP
THE SEVEN
PILLARS FROM
BLOOMING.

WITH THIS
POWER, I
MIGHT BE ABLE
TO TELL EVERY-
ONE ON THIS
SIDE WHAT'S
HAPPENING ON
THAT SIDE.

NOT
ONLY
CAN I
READ
PEOPLE'S
HEARTS,
I CAN
TRANSMIT
MY HEART
TO OTHERS,
AS WELL.

NO.

IT'S
BECAUSE
WE'RE
FRIENDS
THAT I'M
THE BEST
CHOICE.

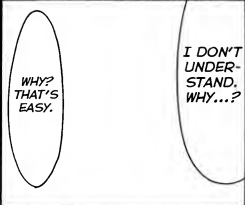
DON'T
YOU
THINK
IT'S
HARD
FOR
AKINA-
SAN
TO SEND
HIS
FRIEND?

...AKINA,
RIGHT?

AND THE
ONE WHO'S
CARRYING
THE
BURDEN
OF
SENDING
ME IS...

...





WHY?
THAT'S
EASY.

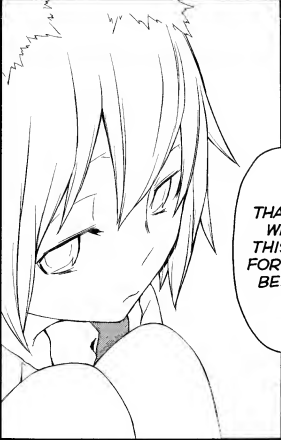
I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND.
WHY...?



WHY?



SENDING
A FRIEND
IS MUCH
EASIER
THAN
SENDING
SOMEONE
HE HARDLY
KNOWS.
THAT'S
JUST
HOW
AKINA
IS.



THAT'S
WHY
THIS IS
FOR THE
BEST.



BECAUSE
I DON'T
MIND
BEING
SENT
BY AKINA,
EITHER.



I'M SURE
THEY'RE
ALL GOOD-
NATURED
PEOPLE.

THEY'RE
AKINA'S
RELA-
TIVES,
AFTER
ALL.



DON'T
WORRY. IF
THE DESCEN-
DANTS OF
THE BRANCH
FAMILY ARE
STILL ALIVE,
I'M SURE
THEY'LL
HELP ME.



ARE...
ARE YOU
REALLY NOT
SCARED,
NII-SAN?
OR ARE
YOU JUST
SAYING
THAT TO
HIDE-



SO YOU
KNOW WE
CAN'T HIDE
ANYTHING
FROM
EACH
OTHER.

AO
...
WE'RE
SATORI.
WE CAN
READ THE
HEARTS AND
MINDS OF
OTHER
PEOPLE.

SEE?



1/0
4
BZT
...OR
THAT I
DON'T
TRUST
AKINA?

IS
THERE
ANY
HINT
IN MY
MIND
...
THAT
I'M
AFRAID
...



...

OKAY
...

MAKE
SURE
YOU EAT
BREAK-
FAST
EVERY
DAY.

YOU HAVE
TO KEEP
IT TOGETH-
ER EVEN
AFTER I'M
GONE, AO.

THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.

YOU'RE
AMAZ-
ING, NII-
SAN...

OKAY
...

OF
COURSE,
THAT GOES
FOR
HIME AND
KOTOHA,
TOO.

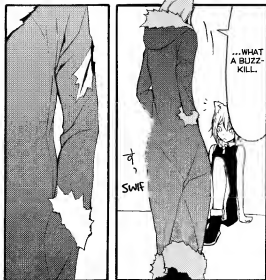
IF YOU'RE
EVER IN
TROUBLE,
TALK TO
AKINA OR
KYOSUKE.
I ASKED
THEM TO
LOOK
AFTER
YOU.

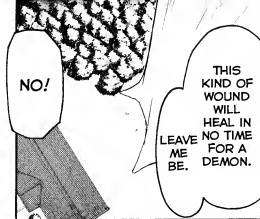






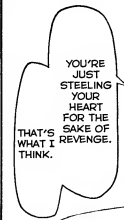








WHAT A
STUPID
IDEA...



YOU'RE
JUST
STEELING
YOUR
HEART
FOR THE
SAKE OF
REVENGE.
THAT'S
WHAT I
THINK.



I'M
SURE
A LOT
HAPPENED
BETWEEN
THE
HIIZUMI
HEAD
FAMILY
AND
YOURS,
BUT I
DON'T
THINK YOU
ACTUALLY
WANT
TO HURT
PEOPLE.



IT'S NOT
STUPID!



AFTER
ALL,
NII-
SAN'S
HEART
IS STILL
INSIDE
OF YOU.
HE
WOULD
NEVER
ALLOW
THAT!

THERE'S
NO WAY
YOU
TRULY
WANT TO
DO THESE
AWFUL
THINGS!

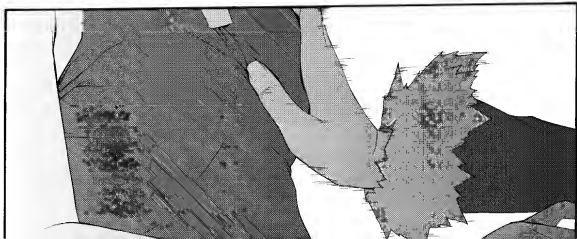


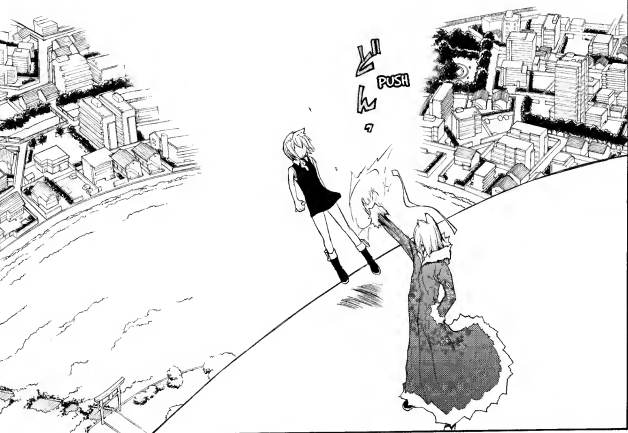
STOP
IT!
DON'T
READ
MY
HEART
...



YOU'RE
WRONG.
THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT...







I'VE
GOTTEN
QUITE GOOD
AT TRANS-
MITTING
FABRICATED
THOUGHTS,
DON'T YOU
THINK?

JUST
KID-
DING.

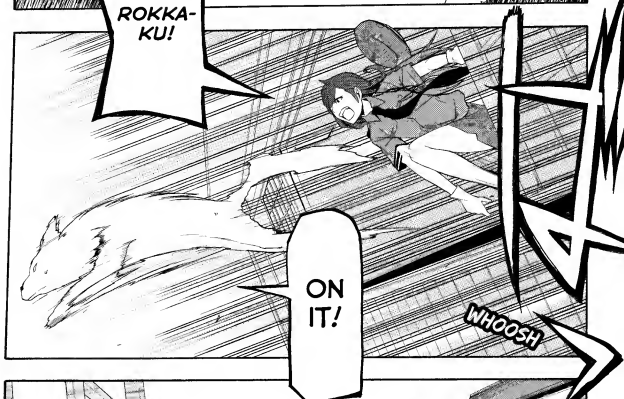


CAN'T
BECOME
COM-
PLETELY
EVIL, YOU
SAY?



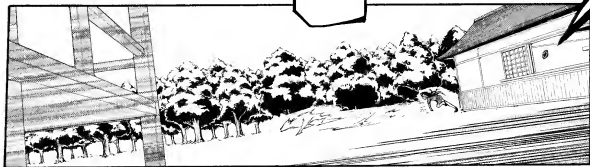


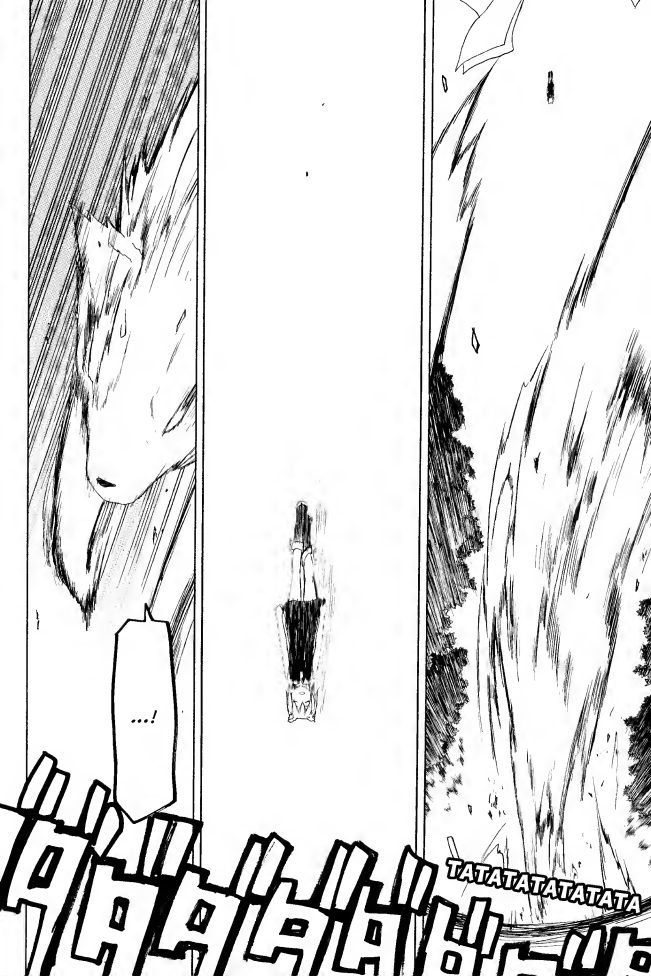
ROKKA-
KU!



ON
IT!

WHOOSH





....!

ガッガッガッガッ

TATATATATATA



I
WON'T
MAKE
IT...!

I...

THUD

↓

+

.

.

.

.

.

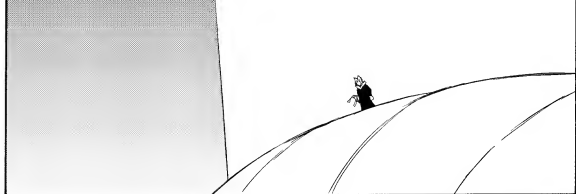
.

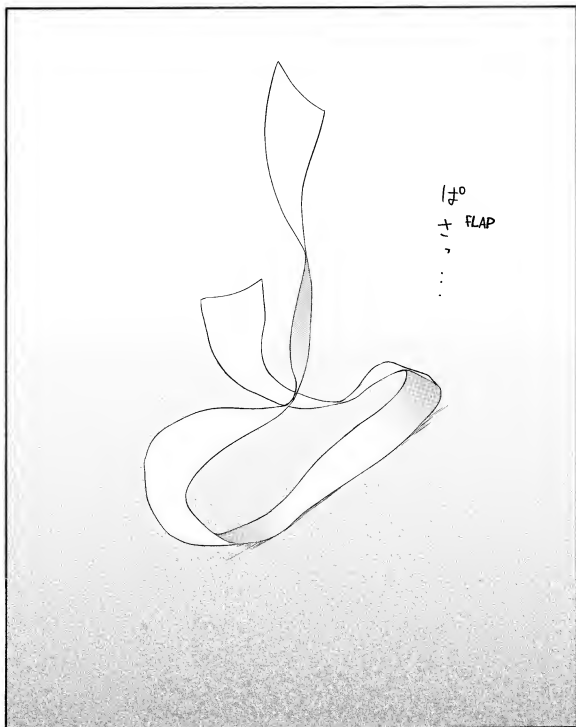
.

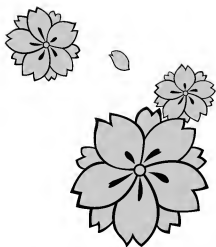
.

.

.







YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12 



YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12



TALK
ABOUT
LEISURE-
LY...

YOU
DIDN'T
GO
YESTER-
DAY?

YOU'RE
GOING
TO
INSPECT
THE SEVEN
PILLARS
NOW?



RIGHT?

YOU'LL
JUST
HAVE PUT
THAT MUCH
MORE
EFFORT
INTO INVE-
STIGATING.

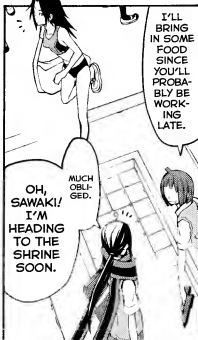
ARE
YOU
GOING
BY YOUR-
SELF,
HIME-
CHAN?



HUH?
YOU
DON'T
HAVE
TO DO
THAT.

OKAY.
I'LL
FINISH
UP EAR-
LY AND
HEAD HOME
SOON.

I WAS
JUST GONNA
WORK UP
A LIGHT
SWEAT SINCE
THERE'S NO
CLUB TODAY,
ANYWAY.



I'LL
BRING
IN SOME
FOOD
SINCE
YOU'LL
PROBABLY
BE WORK-
ING LATE.

OH,
SAWAKI!
I'M
HEADING
TO THE
SHRINE
SOON.

MUCH
OBLI-
GED.



I WANT
TO CHECK
OUT THE
OTHER
PILLARS
BESIDES
THE SIXTH,
SO WE
MIGHT
SPLIT UP
INTO
GROUPS.

PHEW...
SOUNDS
LIKE A
LOT OF
LEG-
WORK.

MY POWER
WOULD GET
UNSTABLE
EVEN
WITH MY
RESTRAINTS
ON...

RINDA
LATE,
THOUGH.

MAYBE I
SHOULD
JOIN ONE,
TOO.

CLUB,
HUH?

WHY
DID YOU
STOP?

YOU DID
ARCHERY
IN MIDDLE
SCHOOL,
DIDN'T YOU?

WILL
YOU
EVEN
MAKE IT
IN? YOU
DON'T
STUDY
MUCH.

OR
MAYBE
I'LL
JUST
WAIT
UNTIL I
GO TO
COLLEGE.

I...I
STILL
HAVE
TIME!

THAT'S
TRUE.

MAYBE
I'LL
PICK
IT UP
AGAIN.

BUT
YOU
DON'T
EVEN
WEAR
THEM
ANY-
MORE.

WE'LL
STOP
IT,
SO
THERE'S
NO PRO-
BLEM.

UH-
HUH!

I
MEAN...
THE BLOS-
SOMING
MIGHT
HAPPEN
NOT EVEN
A YEAR
FROM
NOW,
RIGHT?

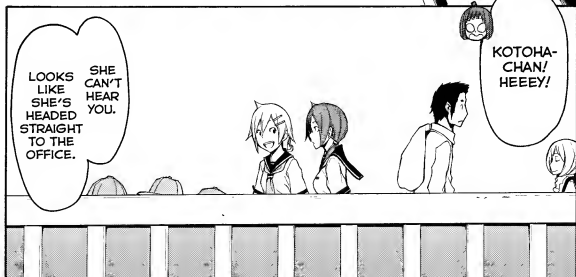
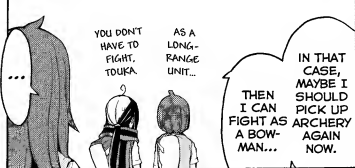
WHEN
I RE-
MEMBER
THAT,
I...

YOU
GUYS
...

...HAVE NO
PROBLEM
TALKING
ABOUT A
YEAR OR TWO
DOWN THE
ROAD, HUH?

WHY
WOULD
WE?

YOU
TALK
ABOUT
THE
FUTURE,
TOO,
MIDORI-
KO



I'M GO-
ING TO
BRING
IN FOOD
LATER!
WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

KOTOHA-
CHAAAAN!

HEEEY!

NO...
IT'S
NOTH-
ING.
I'LL
SEE
YOU
LATER.

WHAT'S
UP,
HIME-
CHAN?
IS
THERE
SOME-
THING
ON MY
FACE?

WHAT'S
WRONG,
RIN-
CHAN?
WHY
ARE YOU
SIGHING?

PHEW
...

AH,
TOUKA-
CHAN.

PLod
PLod







67TH NIGHT STORY (PART FIVE)

TO THINK
SHE'D HAVE
THIS MUCH
POWER AFTER
FALLING...

WELL,
THIS
IS A
PICKLE.

THE
FALLEN
SOUL
AND HOST
MUST
HAVE HAD
GOOD
AFFINITY.
NOW
...

STAY
BACK,
AKI-
NA!

GRAND
PA!

はた
はた
はた
PAT
PAT

WHOOSH





GIVEN
HOW
FAR
SHE'S
FALL-
EN...

REAL-
LY?!



I HAVEN'T
PLAYED
WITH HER
MUCH...

HUH?

ARE YOU
FRIENDS
WITH THAT
GIRL?

HIME,



...BUT
SOME-
DAY...

WE'RE
NOT
FRIENDS
RIGHT
NOW...



OTHER-
WISE MY
HONOR AS
AN ADULT
WILL BE
SHOT.

THEN IT'S
MY JOB TO
CREATE
SOMEDAY
FOR YOU
GIRLS.

...I
SEE.



YOU ASKED
IF THERE'S
ANYTHING
YOU CAN DO,
RIGHT?

WHEN
THE TIME
COMES,
I WANT
YOU TO BE
FRIENDS
WITH HER.

...

THAT GIRL
IS GOING
TO CARRY
A HEAVY
BURDEN
FROM NOW
ON.

YOU DON'T
BECOME
FRIENDS WITH
SOMEONE
BECAUSE
YOU WERE
ASKED TO.

I
WANT
TO BE
HER
FRIEND!

THAT'S
NOT
RIGHT,
GRANDPA
MAKI-
HARU.

WELL, SEE-
ING AS MY
DEPENDABLE
FRIENDS
HAVE
ARRIVED...

SORRY
ABOUT
THAT.

SAVE
THE
BICKER-
ING FOR
AFTER-
WARD.

FRIEND?
SAYS
WHO?

LET'S
GIVE
IT ONE
FINAL
PUSH,
SHALL
WE?

BRING
THE AM-
BULANCE
OVER
HERE!

HURRY,
HURRY!

ONII-
CHAN!



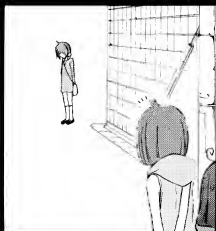
KYO-
SUKE!

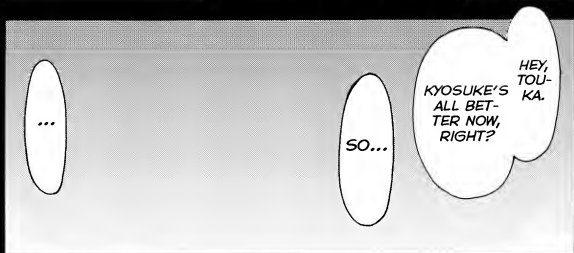


CRIT

CLARE









YOU
LOOK
SO
SERI-
OUS
NOW.

MAN,
THEY
DON'T
SUIT YOU
AT ALL,
KYO-
SUKE!

IT
TAKES
A LITTLE
WHILE
TO GET
USED TO
GLASSES.

COME
SEE ME
AGAIN
IN A
WEEK.



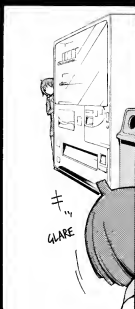
GIVE
ME A
BREAK!



BE-
CAUSE
OF
THAT
...

HUH
?!

WHY IS
ONII-
CHAN
WEAR-
ING GLASS-
ES?
DON'T
TELL ME HIS
INJURY
...



GLARE











YOU
KNOW
THAT,
RIGHT?

SHE
DIDN'T
CHOOSE
TO FALL.

IT
WAS
JUST
BAD
LUCK
THAT
SHE
FELL.



TOU-
KA.



THAT'S
...

B-BUT
SHE STILL
HURT YOU
WHILE
SHE WAS
FALLEN!



HEEEY!



BUT...I
DON'T
KNOW HOW
I SHOULD
EVEN
APPROACH
HER ANY-
MORE.



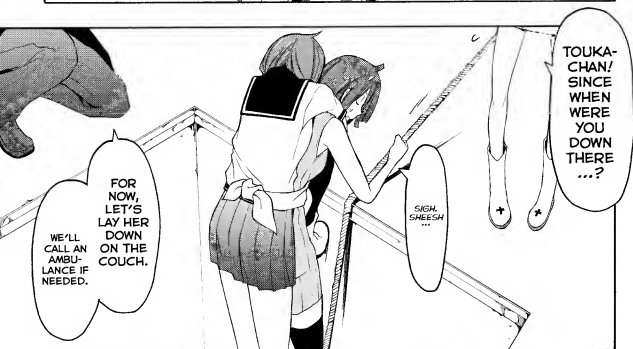
UMM...



I
BROUGHT
A NEW
FRIEND!
LET'S
PLAY
TOGETH-
ER!







WHAT?
BUT
THEN
...

...JUST
USE
IT REG-
ULARLY
LIKE
NORMAL.

I
SEE.

IN
THAT
CASE
...

BUT I
HURT
EVERY-
ONE
WITH
THIS
POW-
ER.

I'M
NOT
SURE
IF IT'S
OKAY
TO
USE.

WOW.

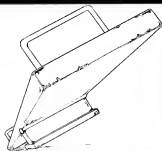
YOU'RE
LIKE A
SATO-
RI.

USE
IT TO
HELP
PEO-
PLE?

TAME
YOUR
POWER
IN THAT
SENSE.

OR
YOU
CAN
LEARN
TO
COOK,

AND
GET
YOUR
LICENSE.



WHETHER
IT'S A
KITCHEN
KNIFE OR
A CAR,

AS
THEY ARE,
THEY CAN
BE USED
TO KILL
PEOPLE.

THAT'S
TRUE,
BUT...

IT'D BE
BAD IF YOU
COULDN'T USE
KOTODAMA
WELL WHEN YOU
REALLY NEED
TO, RIGHT?

...IS SOME-
THING YOU
CAN THINK
ABOUT AND
DECIDE WHEN
THE TIME
COMES.

IT'S
NOT
A BAD
THING TO
POLISH
ONE'S
ABILITIES.

WHETHER
OR NOT
YOU USE
IT TO SAVE
SOMEONE
SOMEDAY...



GIN TOLD ME
TO THINK HARD
ABOUT WHETHER
OR NOT TO USE
MY POWER WHEN
THE TIME CAME.

...EVERYONE
IN TOWN
OPENED
UP THEIR
ARMS TO
ME.

DESPITE
ACQUIRING
THIS ALIEN
POWER...



...THAT I WOULD
USE MY POWER
TO PROTECT
SOMEONE
WITHOUT
HESITATION.

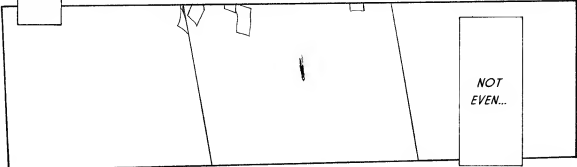
BUT I HAD
ALREADY
DECIDED
THEN...



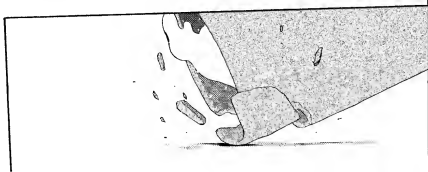
...YOU DON'T
HAVE EVEN A
SECOND
TO THINK.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

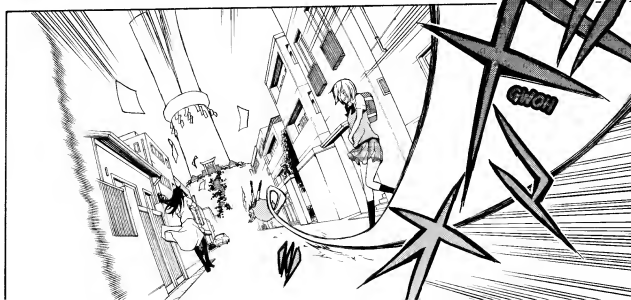
AFTER ALL,
WHEN PUSH
COMES TO
SHOVE...



NOT
EVEN...



...A SECOND.







Sign: We appreciate your cooperation





IT'S
NO
USE.

EVEN
THOUGH
I HAVE
THIS
POWER
...

...I
HAVE NO
CHOICE
BUT TO
GIVE UP?

I
WON'T
MAKE
IT...

I
HAVE
IT,
AND
YET
...

THAT'S
JUST
...

GRIP



...NOT
RIGHT!

TOGETHER,
THEY MAKE
THE SELF
I'VE BUILT
UP OVER ALL
THIS TIME.

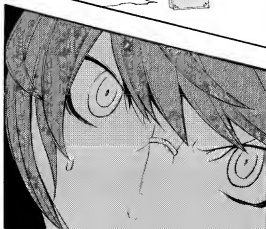


HALF
OF ME
IS DE-
MON.
AND
HALF IS
THE OLD
ME.

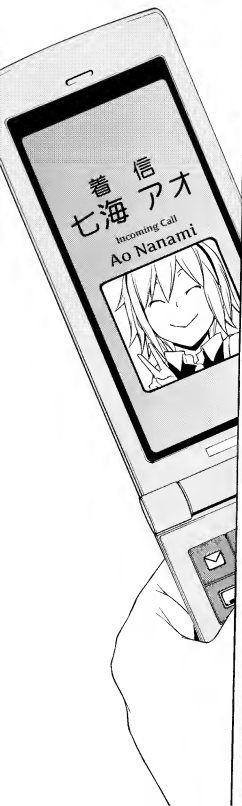
AS SOMEONE
WHO LOVES
HAPPY ENDINGS
AND READS
ANYTHING I CAN
GET MY HANDS ON
TO FIND THEM...

...AND
ABSORBED
SO MANY
BOOKS
TO MAKE
UP
ME.

I'VE
PLAYED,
STUD-
IED...



...I'LL STRIVE
TO LIVE
TOWARDS
A HAPPY
ENDING.



AND
SO,
I'M SURE
THERE'S
ONE
TO THIS
STORY,
TOO.



...

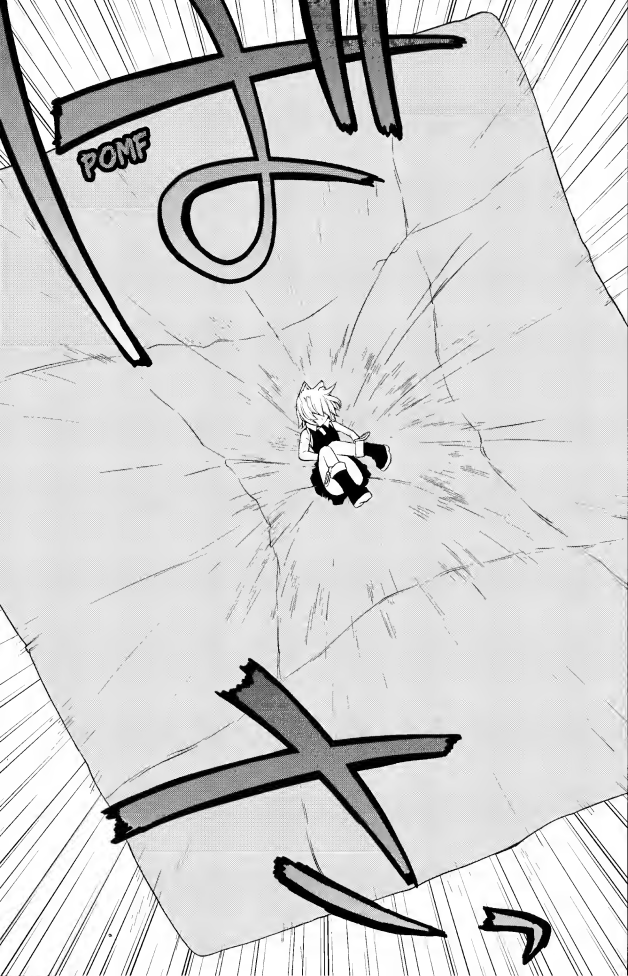


SOME-
WHERE...

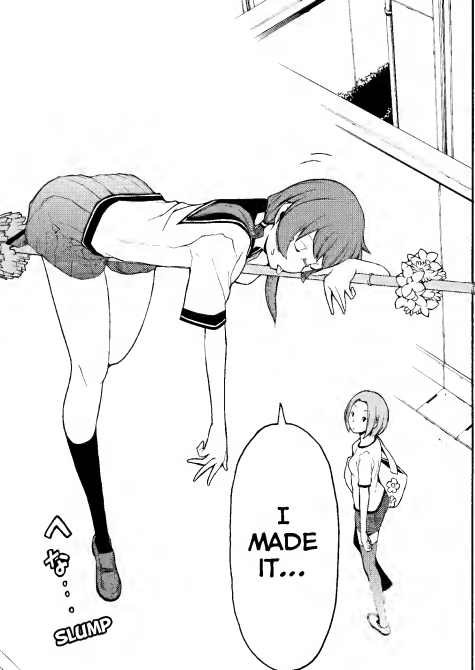


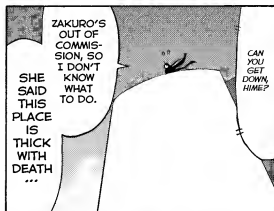
I'M
POSITIVE...















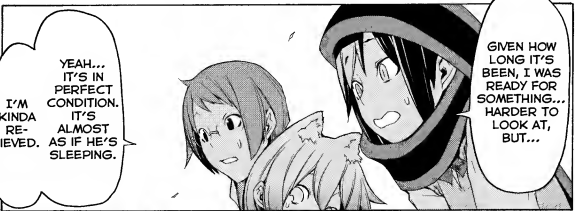








...THIS
IS MORE
THAN I
COULD'VE
IMAGINED.



I'M
KINDA
RE-
LIEVED.
YEAH...
IT'S IN
PERFECT
CONDITION.
IT'S
ALMOST
AS IF HE'S
SLEEPING.

GIVEN HOW
LONG IT'S
BEEN, I WAS
READY FOR
SOMETHING...
HARDER TO
LOOK AT,
BUT...



IT'S
SLIP-
PING.

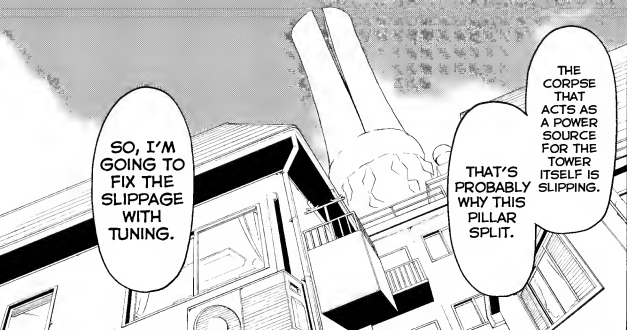
WHAT
ARE
YOU
GONNA
DO?

ALL
RIGHT.

...



PHEW



SO, I'M
GOING TO
FIX THE
SLIPPAGE
WITH
TUNING.

THAT'S
PROBABLY
WHY THIS
PILLAR
SPLIT.

THE
CORPSE
THAT
ACTS AS A
POWER
SOURCE
FOR THE
TOWER
ITSELF IS
SLIPPING.



WE
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT'LL
HAPPEN
IF I DO
THAT.

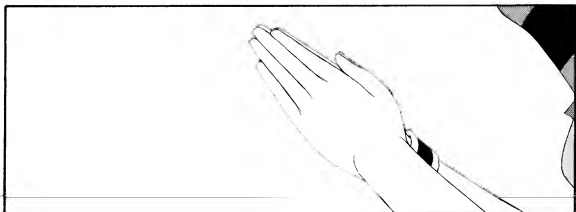
YOU'RE
NOT
GOING
TO SEND
HIM?

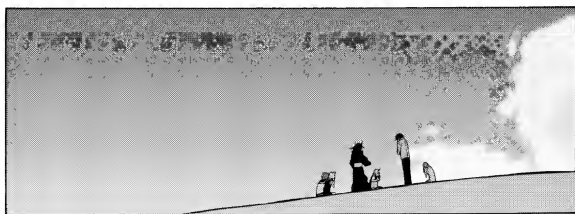


WAIT!

THIS
IS A
STOP-
GAP.

ALL
RIGHT!





...IT'S
SO
COLD.

EVEN
THOUGH
IT'S
SUMMER
...

I CAN'T
THINK OF
ANY WAY TO
DESCRIBE
IT.

...BUT NOW,
FACING
FORWARD,
I HAVE TO
FIRE MYSELF
UP AGAIN.

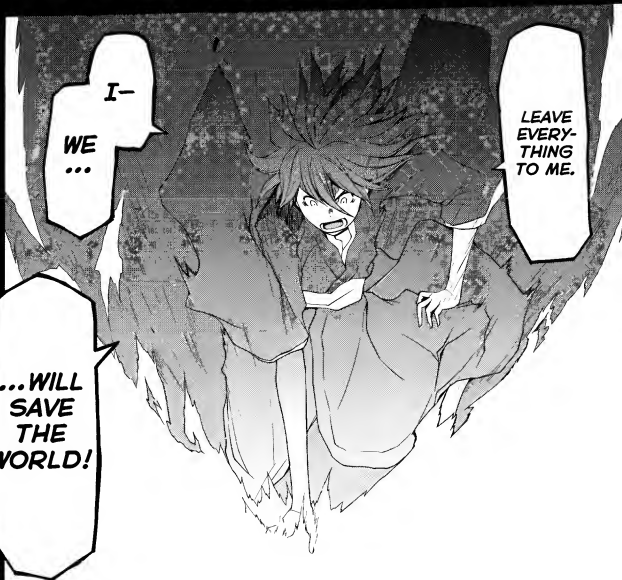
IT'S NOT
LIKE I'VE
BEEN
SLACKING
OFF ALL
THIS
TIME...

I'LL
TAKE
BACK
NII-SAN.

I'LL
TRAIN MY
KOTODAMA
SO I CAN
PAY EVERY-
ONE BACK.



I'LL
PROTECT
THIS TOWN...
AND EVERY-
ONE IN IT.



I-
WE
...

LEAVE
EVERY-
THING
TO ME.

...WILL
SAVE
THE
WORLD!



SO,
THEY'VE
FOUND
THEIR
RESOLVE.



EVERYONE
IN TOWN,
YOU...

HOW
LETHAR-
GIC...
YOU'RE
ALL TOO
SOFT.

I LOOK
FORWARD
TO SEEING
WHAT FORM
IT WILL
TAKE.



EVEN
GRAND-
FATHER.



I
CAN'T
FATHOM
IT.

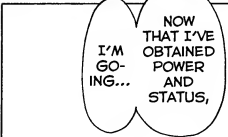
THE
REPRE-
SENTATIVE
ISN'T
SOFT.
HE'S JUST
GOTTEN
SOFTER.

MAYBE
THIS
TOWN
MOVED
HIM IN
SOME
WAY.



FREEZE

SHOOM

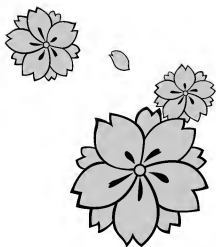


I'M
GO-
ING...

NOW
THAT I'VE
OBTAINED
POWER
AND
STATUS,

I CAN'T
BEAR TO
WATCH
THINGS
MOVE AT
A SNAIL'S
PACE.





YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12 



YOZAKURA
QUARTET 12

...YET
YOU SURE
ARE IN A
HURRY TO
INVESTIGATE.

DAY
HASN'T
EVEN
BROKEN
...

OF
COURSE
I'D THINK
YOU'RE
UP TO NO
GOOD.



WELL,
I CAME
BACK FROM
HAKONE TO
FIND ONE OF
THE PILLARS
SPLIT IN HALF,
AFTER ALL.

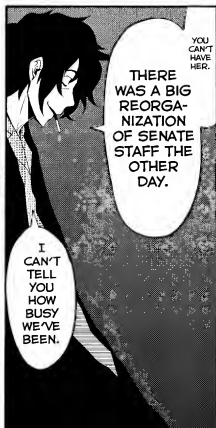
TO THINK
YOU CARE
ABOUT ME
THAT MUCH.

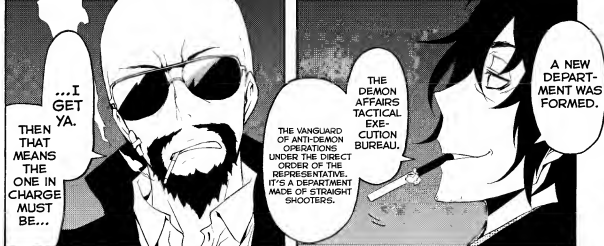
I'M
TOUCHED,
REALLY.

YOU'RE
JUST DYING
FOR ATTENTION,
AREN'T YOU?

I KNOW
YOU GET
LONELY
EASILY.







...I
GET
YA.

THEN
THAT
MEANS
THE
ONE IN
CHARGE
MUST
BE...

THE VANGUARD
OF ANTI-DEMON
OPERATIONS
UNDER THE DIRECT
ORDER OF THE
REPRESENTATIVE.
IT'S A DEPARTMENT
MADE OF STRAIGHT
SHOOTERS.

THE
DEMON
AFFAIRS
TACTICAL
EXE-
CUTION
BUREAU.

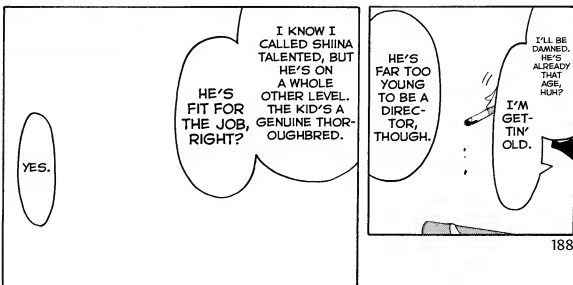
A NEW
DEPART-
MENT WAS
FORMED.



MURASAKI
IYO.

YOU
GUESSED
IT.

THE
REPRESENT-
ATIVE'S
CHERISHED
ONLY
GRANDSON.



YES.

HE'S
FIT FOR
THE JOB,
RIGHT?

I KNOW I
CALLED SHIINA
TALENTED, BUT
HE'S ON
A WHOLE
OTHER LEVEL.
THE KID'S A
GENUINE THOR-
OUGHbred.

HE'S
FAR TOO
YOUNG
TO BE A
DIREC-
TOR,
THOUGH.

I'LL BE
DAMNED.
HE'S
ALREADY
THAT
AGE,
HUH?

I'M
GET-
TIN'
OLD.



I
TRAINED
HIM
MYSELF,
AFTER
ALL.



BUT,
Y'KNOW,
HOW
SHOULD I
PUT IT?

...WELL,
THAT'S
JUST
DANDY.



CRUMPLE

YOU'RE
ABSOLUTELY
RIGHT.



BACK
WHEN THE
REPRESENTATIVE
WAS AT
HIS MOST
HEAD-
STRONG.

NOT
TO
MENTION
...

WHAT'S
REALLY SCARY
IS HOW MUCH
HE IDOLIZES
THE REPRESENTATIVE'S
IDEOLOGY.

THAT
KID,
MURA-
SAKI...

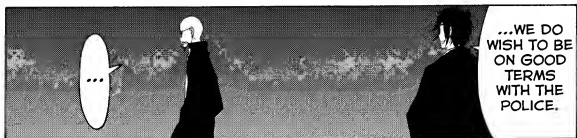


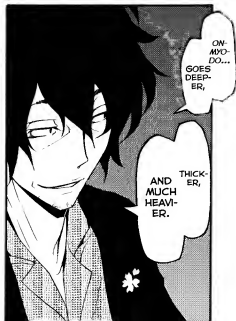
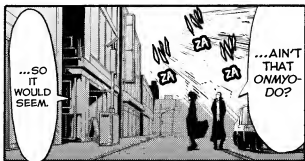
...THE
MOST
ZEALOUS
BY FAR.

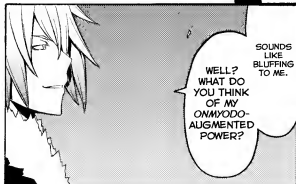
...AS
WELL
AS...

HIS
WILL
BE-
COME
THE
STRON-
GEST...

I CAN
ASSURE
YOU, OUT
OF ALL THE
SENATE'S
DEPART-
MENTS,









IF IT
MEANS
A LITTLE
STIMULA-
TION NOW
AND THEN,
THEN I
DON'T
MIND...

...GET-
TING AT-
TACKED
ON PUR-
POSE.



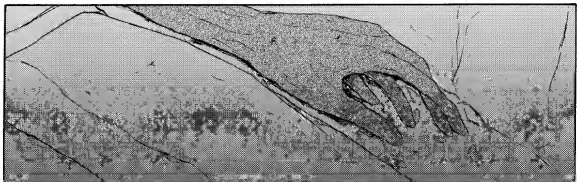
WELL, IT
WASN'T
BAD FOR
ME, EI-
THER.

CHIKA



I MIGHT
PAY YOU
A VISIT IF
I FEEL
LIKE IT.

IF YOUR
BODY
STARTS
TO ACHIE
AGAIN,
GIVE ME
A CALL.



...A LITTLE
TOO GRIM
FOR THOSE
KIDS.

THIS
MIGHT
BE...



WELL,
LET'S
JUST
...CALL
IT FU-
NERAL
MAKEUP.

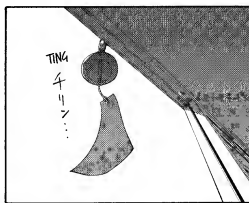
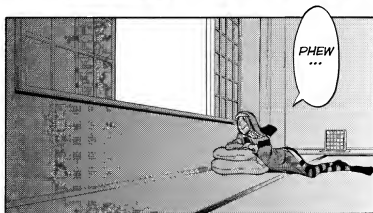
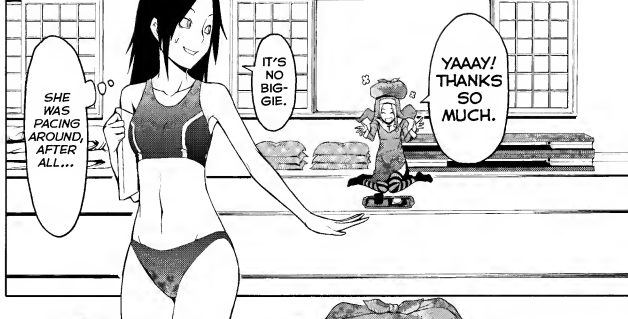
...TO DIG
THOSE
OUT
OF THE
CHURCH,
I GUESS.

NOW
JUST
...

修復 Repair

HERE
YOU
GO.

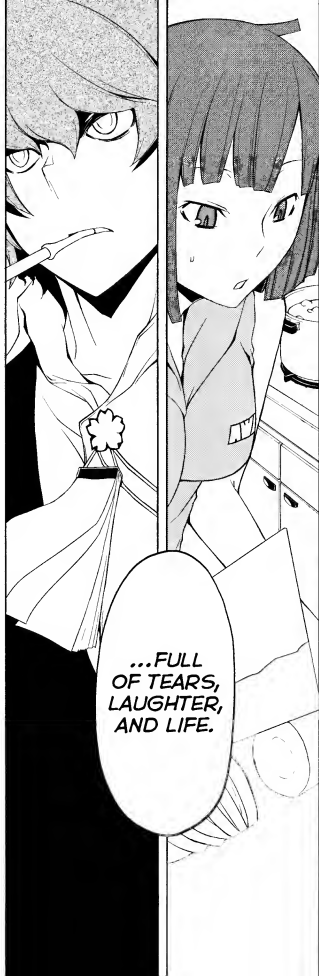
ちん
CLACK





...THIS
IS YOUR
GUYS'
STORY.

AFTER
ALL...



...FULL
OF TEARS,
LAUGHTER,
AND LIFE.



A STORY
FOR EACH
AND EVERY
ONE OF
YOU...



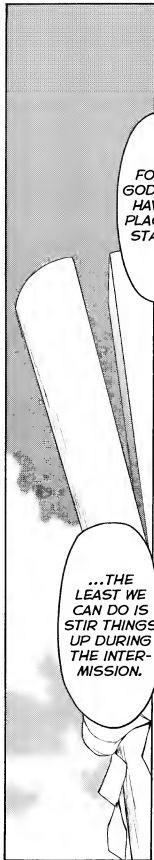


NOW,
THEN
...

LOOKS
LIKE A
NEW ACT
IS ABOUT
TO START.

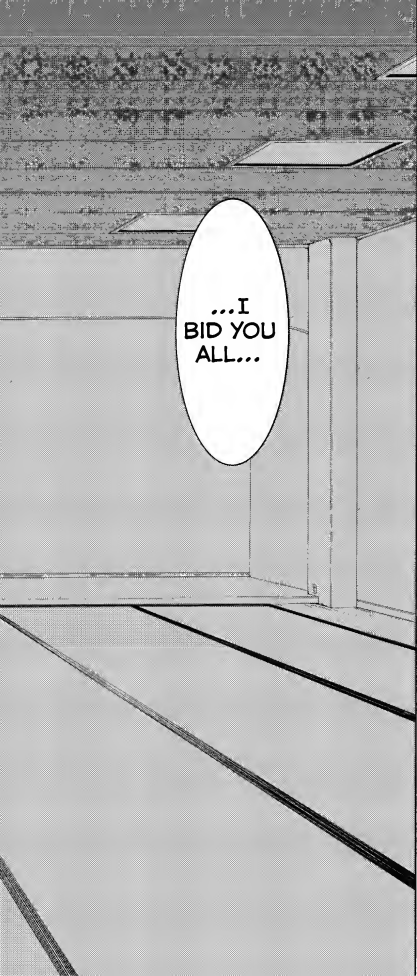


FOR US
GODS WHO
HAVE NO
PLACE ON-
STAGE...



...THE
LEAST WE
CAN DO IS
STIR THINGS
UP DURING
THE INTER-
MISSION.





...I
BID YOU
ALL...



WELL,
UNTIL
I HAVE
A PART
TO PLAY
AGAIN...



...GOOD
NIGHT.

#68TH

STORY (EPILOGUE) END



To be Continued III

**YOZAKURA
QUARTET**

13



JUST HOW
RUNDOWN
IS THIS
APART-
MENT?

THAT'S
ALL?!

WHEE!
HIC.

MMM...
IT MIGHT'VE
BEEN
BECAUSE I
USED THE
MICROWAVE
TO MAKE
SOME
SNACKS
TO GO
WITH MY
BOOZE.

よざかる!
YOZAQART!

POOF

THE
LIGHTS
WENT
OUT!

ホニ
ホニ
GROPE
GROPE

NO, BUT
THAT'S TOO
NORMAL.
THERE HAS
TO BE MORE
TO THIS...

THIS
SOFT-
NESS.
COULD
IT BE
...?

HM?

Moosh

LET'S
SEE.
BREAK-
ER...
BREAK-
ER...

YOU
WERE
BEHIND
THIS?!

ALRIGHTY,
THAT
DOES IT
FOR A
GAG!

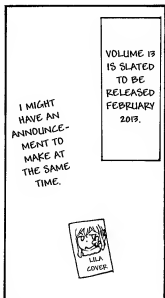
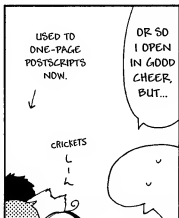
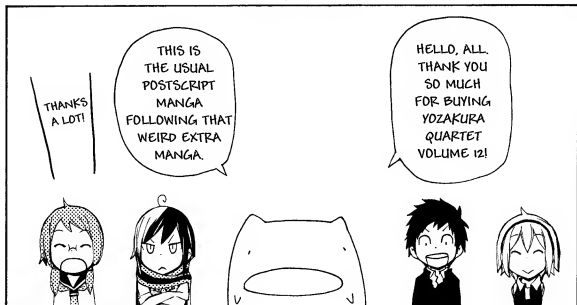
BREAK-
ER

NO
TWIST
WHAT-
SOEVER!

はは
はは
FUCK

ホニ
GROPE

OH, MY.
WHAT'S
ALL THIS,
THEN?



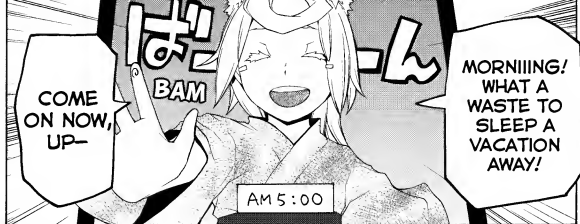


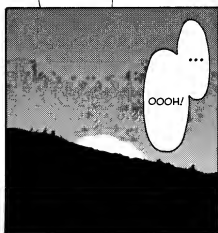
COMING BACK
AFTER A WHILE...

...I DONT LIKE
THIS HIME!

USES WORDS SHE JUST LEARNED.







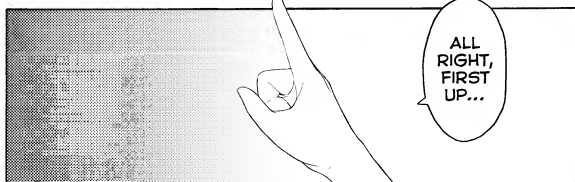
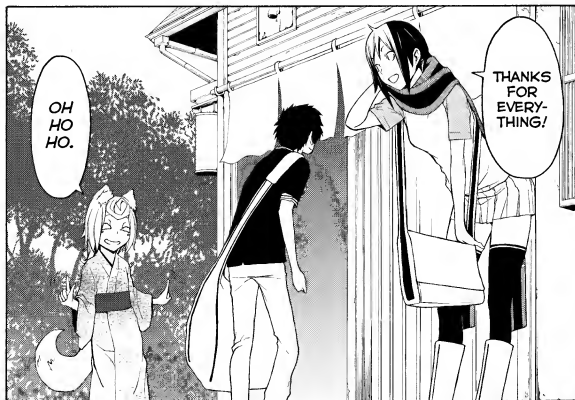
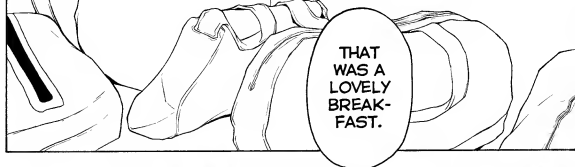
WOW!
HOW
PRET-
TY.

THIS IS
THE TRUE
CHARM OF
AN OPEN-
AIR BATH.

SPLEN-
DID.
JUST
SUPERB.









WH-WH-
WHAT?!
A TORII*
ON A
LAKE?!

*A Shinto shrine archway.

WHAT'S
THIS
DOING
HERE?!

すげえ
AWESOME!



DOOM

...THERE'S
A HUGE
STAIRWAY
EXTENDING
FROM THE
LAKE!



ばっ

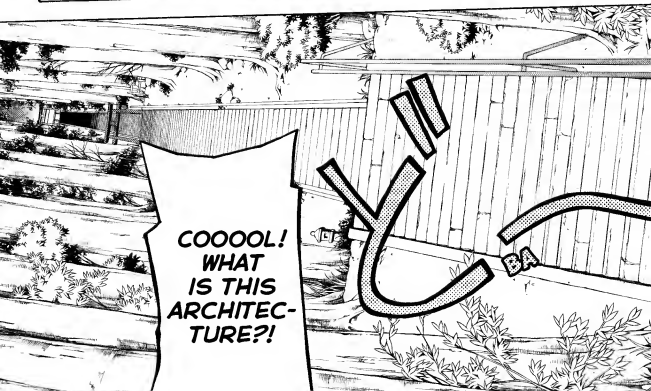
LAKE
ASHI IS
HUGE!

BOOM

ん



AND
BEHIND
US...



COOOOL!
WHAT
IS THIS
ARCHITEC-
TURE?!

と

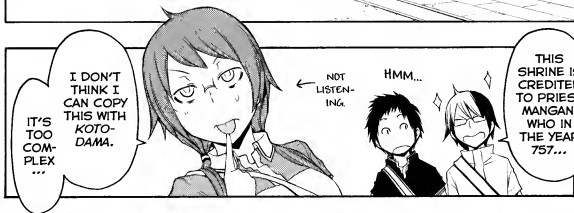
BA



INDEED.
ISN'T HAKONE
SHRINE
LOVELY?

AND THE
SHRINE
UP TOP
IS NICE,
TOO.

THIS
IS HA-
KONE'S
HIDDEN
POTEN-
TIAL...



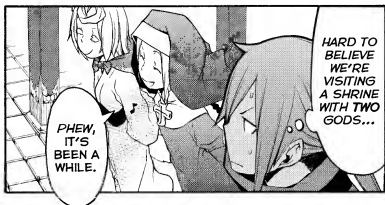
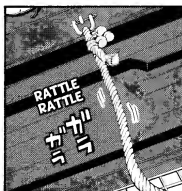
IT'S
TOO
COM-
PLEX
...

I DON'T
THINK I
CAN COPY
THIS WITH
KOTO-
DAMA.

NOT
LISTEN-
ING.

HMM...

THIS
SHRINE IS
CREDITED
TO PRIEST
MANGAN,
WHO IN
THE YEAR
757...



PHEW,
IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE.

HARD TO
BELIEVE
WE'RE
VISITING
A SHRINE
WITH TWO
GODS...



AVER-
AGE, I
GUESS
...?

HOW
STRONG
ARE EV-
ERYONE'S
LEGS?

WHERE
TO
NEXT?

LIKE-
WISE!

WAT
EVERYONE
LIVE
HEALTHILY
AND
HAPPILY!

**NEXT IS
MOUNTAIN
CLIMBING!**

OOOKAY,
THEN!

Sign: Mt. Komagatake Hiking Course
80 min. 110 min. Entrance

A close-up of a hand holding a piece of paper. The paper has the text 'カッ' and 'SNA' written on it. The background is a stippled pattern.

WHEEZE

HOW
SLUG-
GISH!

YEAH!
YEAH!

C'MOOON!
YOU GUYS
ARE SO
SOFT!

TH-
THIS IS
HARDER
THAN YES-
TERDAY'S
CLIMB...

すか、
SPACE ...HUH?

...HUH?

た た、た た、た た

I MEAN, WE'VE BEEN HIKING FOR TWO HOURS NOW...

WE'RE ALMOST THERE. SEE?

WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

SEE?

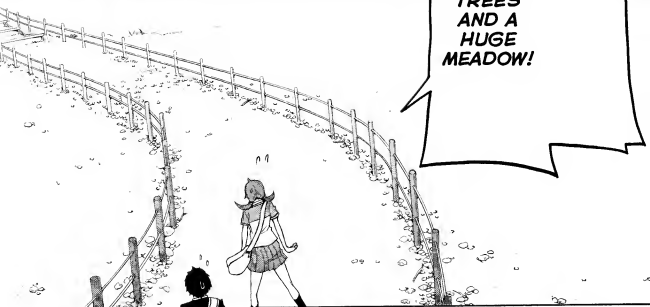
WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

SEE?

DOOM

h

SUDDENLY **DWA**
THERE **AAH!**
ARE NO
TREES
AND A
HUGE
MEADOW!



THE
ORIGINAL
SHRINE.



AT THE
TOP IS
HAKONE
SHRINE'S
REAR
BUILDING.



MAN... I
UNDERES-
TIMATED
HAKONE. I
THOUGHT
IT WAS
JUST A
CHILL HOT
SPRINGS
TOWN.

**WHAT
IS WITH
HAKONE
?!**

ぼ

BA-

WHOA!

THOUGH
IT HAS
GOTTEN
A BIT
CLOUDY

わ

THERE!

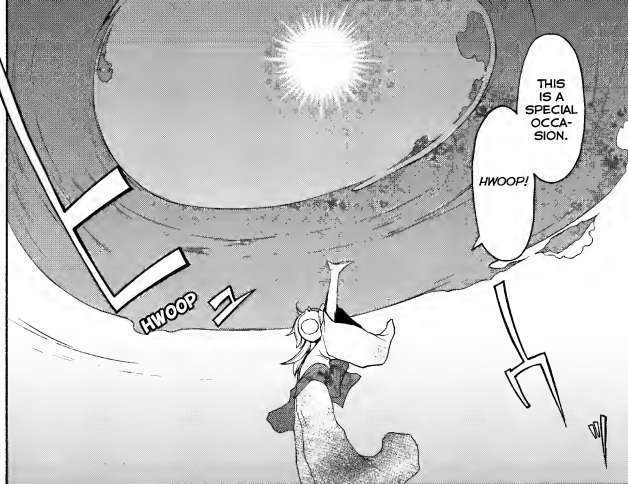
UWAH!

THIS IS
SOME-
THING
ELSE.

IT WAS
WORTH
THE
CLIMB.

SINCE
IT'S
ABOUT
THAT
TIME, WHY
DON'T
WE HAVE
LUNCH
NOW?







HAPPY
BIRTH-
DAY,
HIME!



I
SEE
...

ONE-
PIECE
PARTY
POPPERS.

THE
ZAKURO
FIASCO
HAPPENED
AROUND
THAT
TIME.

THEN
THE LILA
FIASCO
RIGHT
AFTER.

OH,
YEAH.

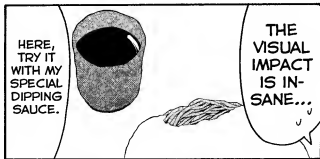
WE
GAVE YOU
GIFTS,
BUT WE
NEVER
THREW
A PARTY,
RIGHT?

IS THIS
VERY
WORLD
AN
ILLU-
SION?

YOU ALL
GAVE ME
PRES-
ENTS,
REMEM-
BER?

HUH?
BIRTH-
DAY?
MINE
WAS
LAST
MONTH
...







THE
INN IS
CLOSER
FROM
HERE.

I'LL
WALK.

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU,
TOMOE-
SAN?

...I
SUGGEST
YOU ALL
TAKE THE
ROPEWAY
DOWN.



WELL,
NOW
THAT
WE'VE
CLEANED
UP...



TOMOE-
SAN!

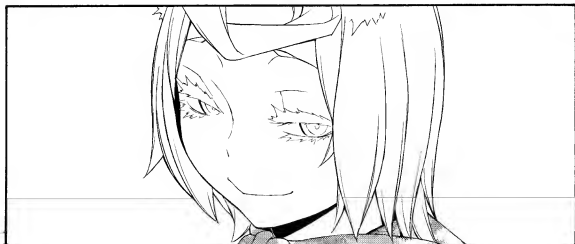


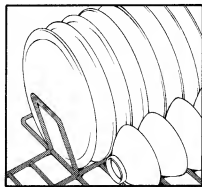
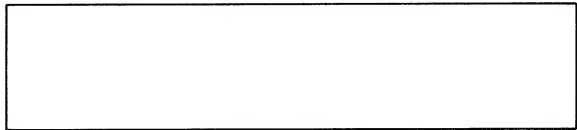
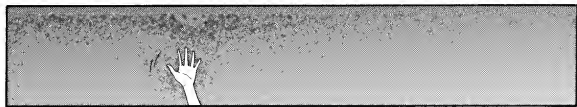
WELL,
THEN,
TAKE
CARE
...

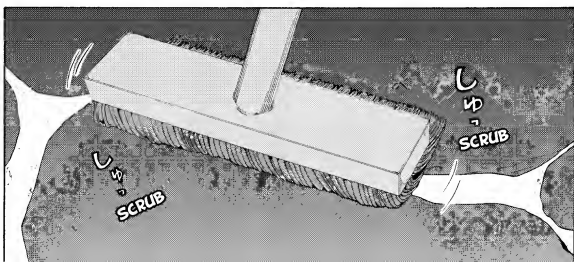
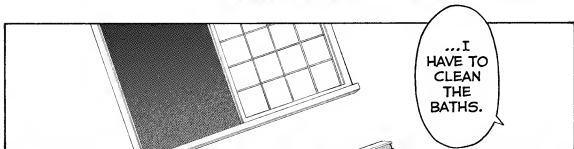
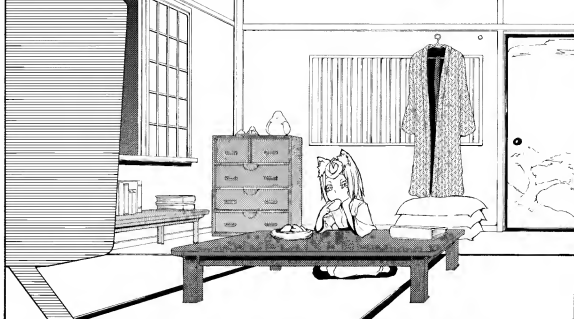


ABOUT
COMING
AGAIN
NEXT
YEAR...

...
UMM.









I SHOULD
TAKE
A DIP
WHILE
I'M AT
IT.

THE
MOON IS
LOVELY
TONIGHT.







Yozakura Quartet 12

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

Yozakura Quartet volume 12 copyright © 2012 Suzuhito Yasuda
English translation copyright © 2017 Suzuhito Yasuda

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2012 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through
Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or
by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC,
San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682336472

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation by Adam Hirsch
Lettering by Allen Berry
Editing by Jesika Brooks
YKS Services LLC/SKY Japan, INC.

